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...e of the music on a single acre, and get perhaps
three-fourths as much corn, with not much
more than half the labor, and at the same
time greatly improve the land for some
future crop. With a little effort on the part
of the farmer the question of how much ma-
nure to the acre for each particular crop will
pay the best, could be made much more cer-
tain than it now is. He should make it a rule
to apply different quantities on the same
field, for a particular crop, and carefully note
the results; by such practice he will soon
satisfy himself what amount produces the
most satisfactory results on his farm.' But
what may be the most profitable for him may
not be for his neighbor, who may have a dif-
ferent soil, or may cultivate his crops in a
different way, or perhaps he may sell his pro-
ducts in a different market, where the de-
mand of the buyers may be altogether differ-
ent; in fact, the farmer himself may be differ-
ent; he may not be up to that high standard
required for success in high cultivation; for
the man who applies manure in very large
quantities must direct his labors with higher
intelligence than the man who applies but
moderate quantities, if he would secure a
good profit.

A man of ordinary intelligence may go on
to a farm and apply just manure enough to
get a small crop, and yet make both ends
meet; the same man would run heavily in
debt if he should attempt to buy and apply
large quantities of manure to his land; but
the man of high intelligence who not only
understands the general principle of plant
growth, but also understands the demands
of the market, and how to sell at the highest
prices, such a man will find it profitable to
apply to his land much larger quantities of
manure than the man who has but little
idea of plant growth, the demands of the
market, or how to sell at fair prices.

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Horticultural Society

# MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

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## Editorial.

### TO WHAT EXTENT IS IT PROFITABLE TO MANURE LAND.

From the time that the Indian taught the Pilgrim to manure the corn crop with one or two small fishes in each hill, down to within a few years, there has been but little danger that the general farmer, or even gardener, would waste his manure by applying too much upon any given quantity of land; but the great mistake which has been made is in spreading it over too much land, and thus obtaining but small crops. But in these latter days when are found those who apply a hundred cords of manure to the acre, it is not strange that there are some who are asking the question, if there is not a point beyond which it is profitable to manure land. So much depends on surrounding circumstances that it would be difficult, if not impossible to establish any rule, as to what extent fertilizers can be used to advantage; but each farmer must by careful observation and experiment, settle in his own mind what on his own farm is the quantity that it is the most profitable to use for the growth of each particular crop.

It must be evident to every one that the grower of small fruits or vegetables for the market can use profitably a larger quantity of manure to the acre than one who grows grain or grass, yet it must also be evident that manure for either class of crops might be applied in such quantities as would be unprofitable, if not actually injurious to the crops it was intended to benefit. For example, when Indian corn is grown on a light sandy soil, five cords of manure will produce from fifty to sixty bushels to the acre, but if twenty cords be applied it will not produce 200, or even 150 bushels to the acre, therefore while five cords may not be the most profitable quantity, it is evident that twenty cords would be too much, therefore it is fair to presume that the right quantity is between these two extremes; so with grass land two to four cords of good manure applied to an acre of land, will often produce two tons of hay, while twenty cords would not be likely to produce at most over eight tons. Now if we turn to the strawberry crop, we find if we would get 500 to 800 dollars' worth of fruit to the acre, twenty cords is not too much, if enough, while if only five cords be applied, the crop is not worth gathering. If vegetables are to be grown for the market, a still larger amount of manure is found profitable, yet even this crop must have its limits, beyond which it would be unprofitable to go. There are few who believe it would be more profitable to apply 100 cords to the acre than 50.

What the farmer wants to know is, what amount of manure is it the most profitable to apply; and, not what amount will produce the largest crop? This is an important question, yet it is one that the farmers do not consider very much, and some of them not at all. It is too often the case, that if they decide to plant two acres of corn they apply to this amount of land what manure they can spare, usually regretting that the amount is so small. They seldom stop to consider that it would be better to put all of the manure on a single acre, and get perhaps three-fourths as much corn, with not much more than half the labor, and at the same time greatly improve the land for some future crop. With a little effort on the part of the farmer the question of how much manure to the acre for each particular crop will pay the best, could be made much more certain than it now is. He should make it a rule to apply different quantities on the same field, for a particular crop, and carefully note the results; by such practice he will soon satisfy himself what amount produces the most satisfactory results on his farm.' But what may be the most profitable for him may not be for his neighbor, who may have a different soil, or may cultivate his crops in a different way, or perhaps he may sell his products in a different market, where the demand of the buyers may be altogether different; in fact, the farmer himself may be different; he may not be up to that high standard required for success in high cultivation; for the man who applies manure in very large quantities must direct his labors with higher intelligence than the man who applies but moderate quantities, if he would secure a good profit.

A man of ordinary intelligence may go on to a farm and apply just manure enough to get a small crop, and yet make both ends meet; the same man would run heavily in debt if he should attempt to buy and apply large quantities of manure to his land; but the man of high intelligence who not only understands the general principle of plant growth, but also understands the demands of the market, and how to sell at the highest prices, such a man will find it profitable to apply to his land much larger quantities of manure than the man who has but little idea of plant growth, the demands of the market, or how to sell at fair prices.

At present there is probably no necessity of cautioning the farmers in regard to the danger of applying too much manure to the acre. There is but little doubt that at present more land is cultivated than is manured up to a point where it is the most profitable; but we believe that there is a necessity of urging upon farmers the importance of giving more attention to this subject; and as they can rely but very little upon the teachings of others, it is necessary that they should, by their own observations and experiments, ascertain what is best for the crops which they grow on their own farms. If every farmer could be induced to do this, no doubt a great change would take place in New England agriculture, and that too for the better. In all probability a much larger quantity of produce would be obtained from a less area of land.

It should be the aim of every farmer to cultivate the least amount of land possible, that will secure to him the largest net income.

### AMBER CANE.

Among the new plants which may be used for fodder crops is that of the Amber Cane. Sufficient time has not elapsed since its introduction to settle the question as to its real value, but it is claimed by some who have had several years experience that it is not only readily eaten by cattle but that it is quite nutritious, and also that very large crops of it can be grown. Mr. Lane, the President of the Plymouth County Society, after giving this plant several years trial speaks of it in high terms, and says he shall continue to grow it. One of the advantages of this plant over corn is, it does not grow as coarse, and therefore is eaten more readily when dried in the stook.

If this fodder can be kept in a silo, and there seems to be no reason why it cannot as well as corn, it must prove to be in some respects superior to corn, because it could then be permitted to ripen its seed before being harvested, which of itself would be quite an item of credit. It is claimed that forty bushels of seed can be grown on an acre, and that it has a feeding value equal to the same amount of corn. Its feeding value may be overstated, but if only two-thirds the value of corn it would add very materially to the value of the crop. If the seed be ensilaged with the fodder it would make a much richer feed than corn fodder. There may be some doubt if the glazed stalks, after being ripened, would soften in the silo sufficient to be readily eaten by cattle. We hope a few farmers who have built silos will sow a piece of amber cane the coming season to test its value when ripened and packed in a silo.

An effort is being made to secure the passage of a law offering a State bounty of one dollar a ton for every ton of amber cane grown in the State and converted into sugar. That it is rich in saccharine matter there can be no doubt, and that it can be crystallized into sugar is a fact already established. Whether or not sugar can be made so as to afford farmers as much for the cane as it is worth to feed to the cattle is as yet an unsettled point. There is always one thing that can be said in favor of any crop that is to be converted into sugar, it does not exhaust the soil very much, if only the sugar is carried off the farm.

While it is well for farmers not to rush into new things, because they are new, it is always well to investigate and experiment in a small way, when it can be done without much expense. Every farmer can plant a few rods of amber cane, and test its value on his particular farm, at a cost too trifling to be considered.

### BUTTER AND CHEESE.

BY COL. SLAYTON OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

[Remarks made at the dinner of the New England Agricultural Society, Boston, Feb. 6, 1883.]

I was not brought up on a farm, but my chief experience is in farm products. In the past thirty years I have handled all kinds of farm products. It was my fortune two years ago to attend a national dairy fair at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and see what the West were doing in farm products. I also attended the convention at Milwaukee last December, and there I saw thousands of boxes of cheese and thousands of tubs of butter, and as chairman of a committee I had to test a great many hundred tubs of butter, and the West, young as she is, is doing well. But, gentlemen, my opinion is, after my experience (I commenced when I was very young, I am not very old yet), that New England and New York still maintain the palm in the fragrance of their butter and their cheese. There is a belt between 42 and 43 degrees north latitude where the grasses seem to have an aroma in them that gives a peculiar flavor to fine butter and cheese. One of the matters that I spoke of at Milwaukee, which I think is one of the most important before the farmers of this country, was in regard to curing cheese. I have handled it so long, gentlemen, that I know it has deteriorated within the past ten years from the fact that the dairymen, the factory men especially, are too anxious to get it off their hands too young, before it has lost weight, and they cure it too quick, cook it too much, and put in too little salt. We are losing, by the way, our market in England somewhat on that account, and I have talked with many about it, and they all confirm my experience in that matter. Cheese made in May up to June 20th goes into an empty market, the cheese being all used up in the spring, and it will do to cook it and sell it as they do, but after June 20th, the factory men of New England should so regulate the making of their cheese as not to cure it too quick or have it ripen quick, and become pasty, sometimes almost rotten before it can be sold. If these facts could get before the factory men of the United States, it would save them, I think, almost a million of dollars. [Applause.]

☞ Good butter may be spoiled in churning. Over-churning, or churning at too high or too low a temperature, affects the texture and changes the proper waxiness to a sticky greasiness. The proper temperature of winter cream for churning will usually be found to be about 60 or 65 degrees.

☞ It is stated that the average cost of production of an acre of wheat is $10.00. It costs no more except in the one item of manure, to raise a large crop than a small one, and every bushel over the amount necessary to pay the expense of the crop, brings in the profit to the farmer's pocket. —[Michigan Farmer.

☞ Charles Downing, not long ago, gave the following list of apples to be planted in an orchard of 1000 trees. This was in answer to an inquiry in the New York Tribune. The following is the list: Three hundred Baldwins: one hundred each of R. I. Greening, Golden Russet, of New York, Roxbury Russet; fifty each of Red Russet, Peck's Pleasant, Northern Spy, Jonathan, Hubbardston Nonesuch, Porter, Gravenstein, Red Astrachan."

☞ As growth with the calves is a greater object than fat, a food that will produce muscle and bone is more desirable than one which produces flesh. Therefore oats and bran is esteemed a better food for growing calves than corn with bran.

☞ Serious pleuro-pneumonia prevails among horses in Rochester, N. Y.

## Questions & Answers.

☞ All questions to the Editor, desiring answer through the *Ploughman*, should be accompanied by full name of the correspondent.

### PINKS, &c—BLACK SPANISH EGGS.

*Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:*

I would like to inquire through the *Ploughman* if any of your many readers will tell me how to make my white carnation pinks blossom; I cannot make mine bloom but once in the spring and once in the fall, and only two blossoms at a time. Also, what those little light soft scales on my English ivy are, and how to get rid of them; I have washed them off, but they will come on again. I have been very much tried with them on my rose bushes. Also, where can I get the real Black Spanish eggs.

Please give me what information you can, and oblige a subscriber. Yours truly.

MRS. S. B. LATHAM.

*Marlboro, Feb. 5, 1883.*

Possibly the pinks may be potted in earth that is too heavy and does not drain well, but more probably the room is kept too hot in the daytime, and too cool nights. The plants should be put in a rather light soil with good drainage at the bottom of the pot; the air in the room should be as pure as possible, and the temperature between 80 and 50 degrees. Keep the earth loose on top and water regularly with tepid water. There is something wrong or you would get more blossoms.

The light soft scales are not described particular enough to make us sure to what insect you allude to. If the (Diaspis rosæ), the remedy recommended by Mathew Cook of California, Commissioner of the Board for the destruction of insects, is a wash of strong soap suds, in which has been put flower of sulphur. The secret of ridding house plants of insects is to do the work thorough so as to leave none to propagate. Most of the insects may be destroyed by fumigation with tobacco smoke; inclose them under a box or paper tent and smoke them for a few moments will usually be sufficient, but whatever means is taken to get rid of the insects, care must be taken to keep the plants in a vigorous condition.

Those having Black Spanish eggs for sale would do well to advertise in the *Ploughman*.—[ED.

### UNLEACHED ASHES.

*Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:*

Will you please insert in the columns of the *Ploughman* an article upon the use of unleached ashes, that is, so I may know the way to use them to the best advantage, and also, if any, the value of coal ashes, and for what? Yours, A SUBSCRIBER.

*Ashland, Feb. 6, 1883.*

Unleached ashes are valuable for almost any crop, and improve almost any soil, but they do not act as quick when spread on grass land as many other fertilizers, for this reason, it is best to apply early in the autumn if intended to force a first crop of grass the next season. When applied to hoed crops it is better to apply in connection with other fertilizers. Mixed with ground bone in equal proportions, a fertilizer is made which has but few equals for a field or garden crop.

For sandy land, mixed with muck a few months before using, makes an excellent compost, and when applied in liberal quantities, changes the character of the soil for the better.

Coal ashes contain but very little plant food, but on some soils they prove very beneficial when liberally applied, no doubt because they change the soil by chemical action. When kept dry and are well sifted, they make a very good material to absorb the liquids of the house, especially if they have mixed with them an equal portion of dry muck.—[ED.

### SUNFLOWER SEED.

*Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:*

I think of keeping 25 or 30 hens next fall and winter, which is about twice my usual number. Would it be a good plan to plant about 1-8 or 1-4 acre of my corn ground to sunflowers for part of their keeping, or would corn be better. How should sunflower seed be fed to fowls, whole or ground or—not at all?

J. M.

*Canton, Mass., Feb. 1883.*

While in some localities a few rows of sunflowers may be planted to advantage if a few fowls are kept, there are many localities where the birds will eat the seed as soon as grown, and long before ripe enough to harvest. The seed is usually fed whole, but should be fed only in limited quantities. We should not advise planting a 1-4 or even an 1-8 of an acre for 25 or 30 hens. Indian corn would be much better and a more reliable crop. If the land is in good condition a few rods of barley would be advisable, also, a few rods of wheat and two or three dozen heads of cabbage would make a variety and prove no doubt quite as profitable as a large quantity of sunflower seed. If the intention is to grow the food that is intended for the fowl, plant a variety such as corn, oats, barley, wheat, rye, sunflowers, cabbage, potatoes and turnips. The two first named to cover two thirds of the land. —[ED.

LUNG FEVER.—Pneumonia, more popularly known as lung fever, though of frequent occurrence among horses, is not quite so common as horsemen generally suppose. The disease, however, for which it is often mistaken, and which requires very different treatment, is quite common, especially in the spring and autumn seasons of the year, and it is to this fact the great mortality from what is supposed to be lung fever is to be attributed. One of the most frequent catarrhal diseases is influenza, which, as a rule, is usually of a typhoid character. This disease, which is often ushered in by a shivering fit, followed by a quick breathing, hanging of the head and coldness of the extremities, is often mistaken for an attack of pneumonia (lung fever), and the vigorous treatment which is sometimes prescribed for the cure of the former disease, especially when it happens that the patient is prostrated with typhoid influenza, invariably terminates in the death of the animal. In regard to the treatment of pneumonia (lung fever), we are not in favor of the so called vigorous treatment. Horses or men, when attacked with this dangerous disease, no doubt require prompt attention and energetic treatment, but the bleeding, blistering, physicking, and the too free use of powerful sedatives is not nowadays considered scientific treatment, and experience has proved that patients which are treated on more rational and humane principles usually recover, while those which are treated heroically usually die. Pneumonia has to run a definite course, and there are different stages of the disease, each one of which requires special treatment, which must be directed under the immediate supervision of some expert.—[National Live Stock Journal.

### THE "SILO" AND "ENSILAGE."

BY BENJAMIN P. WARE.

[Essay read before the Mass. State Board of Agriculture, Boston, Feb. 9, 1883.]

The system of preserving grain, fruits, and forage, in subterranean vaults in its green state is spoken of by the earliest writers as being commonly practiced by the ancient Romans, and has also been practiced by the Mexicans for centuries.

In France, Germany, and other countries of Europe green crops of all kinds have been buried in pits, for preservation for more than fifty years, with more or less success.

But to M. Auguste Goffart, a distinguished member of the Central Agricultural Society of France, belongs the honor of having perfected the system of preserving in Silos for an indefinite time, all green forage crops, substantially in their natural condition, for food for all kinds of farm stock.

He began his experiments in 1850, but was only able to preserve his green fodder, for three or four weeks, until 1873 when he had better success. Not until 1876 did he discover the necessity of continuous pressure by which only can complete success be secured. M. Goffart, published his whole experience to the world and in 1879 J. M. Brown, Esq., of New York, translated and published his work, giving to the farmers of the United States reliable information upon this method that is rapidly producing an entire change in the system of Agriculture in this country.

To Mr. J. B. Brown, as well as to M. Auguste Goffart do many of our most prominent farmers who have adopted it, acknowledge a debt of gratitude.

In 1873, Francis H. Appleton, of Lynnfield, Essex County, while making a tour in Europe was shown in Hungary the method of burying green corn fodder in pits, to make what they called sour hay.

Although much waste resulted from this method, and the contents of the pit opened in what would now be considered, bad condition, it proved a wholesome food for cattle and an economical system of preserving the fodder.

Mr. Appleton obtained from his Hungarian friend, a description of it for publication in this County, which appeared in the American Agriculturist, for October 1873. Mr. Appleton copied it, in his essay on Foreign Agricultural Experiences, which was published in the transactions of the Essex Agricultural Society for 1873. This is believed to be the first information published in this county on the subject of ensilage. In 1875 Mr. C. W. Mills, of New Jersey, buried a large quantity of white dent corn, which had grown to an immense size, (but failed to mature in ears,) in large pits under five feet of earth, for the purpose of getting it out of sight. In the spring, instead of finding a manure heap he discovered an enormous quantity of valuable food for his cows, that they liked better than any other fodder. He thus early, by accident, discovered without any previous knowledge the process of ensilage, and has since made a complete success of it.

Mr. Francis Morris, of Maryland, in 1876 first filled brick silos, on a large scale, with tolerable success. John M. Bailey, Esq., of Billerica, Mass., was the first man in New England who dared to build, and fill a silo, after the instructions of M. Goffart, and take the chances of loss in the investment, the ridicule, and obliquy of his neighbors, and the community at large, in case of failure. Or of pecuniary advantage, with the honor and respect of all progressive farmers, if successful. I believe he is eminently satisfied with the results, after three years experience.

There can be no doubt but that good farming must be based upon cattle, sheep, and swine. But each individual farmer must decide for himself, whether it is best for him to keep farm stock, taking into consideration his location and kind of farming most profitable for him. But for him who does keep farm stock, the question how shall it be fed at the least cost, and kept in the best condition, is a very serious one, especially in New England, with its hard and comparatively barren soil and severe winters.

While grass is crowned king, corn must be acknowledged queen of the forage crops. Clover, rye, oats, barley, and the several millets, may be supplemented to advantage, but the principal dependence must be upon the two first named.

The great question of to-day among farmers is how shall the greatest amount of the nutritious ingredients of the forage plants be preserved at the least cost?

Fermentation that tends to decomposition or putrefaction requires the presence of heat, air, and moisture. The elimination of either one of these conditions, will prevent fermentation.

By dessication hay is preserved by removing the moisture, while air and heat remain. By the absence of heat, as in cold storage air, and moisture remaining, decomposition is checked. And by the exclusion of air, heat, and moisture remaining, the same result is obtained.

Chemistry teaches that no valuable nutritive quality of grass or other green forage plants is lost by drying. It also teaches that by the cutting of any green, or living plant, and slight exposure to the air a molecular action sets in, which converts the starch and sugar of the plant, into lactic acid, the oxygen of the air does not enter into this action, and the chemical constituents of the substance remain as before, the same quantities of the same elements, but in different combination. But this change does affect the feeding value of the substance to a considerable degree, so that in putting ensilage into the silo, under the best conditions that the farmer can provide, a loss in feeding value of from 20 to 25 per cent. must inevitably occur. Under less favorable conditions, as where the air is less fully expelled from the ensilage, alcoholic fermentation takes place, by which further oxidation goes on until acetic acid is produced, then at least 50 per cent. of the feeding value is lost. Chemists, however, admit that possibly the fermentation producing lactic acid to a certain amount in the ensilage may in the absence of air, act as an antiseptic, and thus check further decomposition; and also, that this acid being a normal constituent of the contents of some of the digestive organs of animals may render the ensilage more fully digestible, and thereby increase its value to some undetermined extent. It does thus appear that the chemistry of ensilage is certainly very much against this method of preserving green forage.

Chemists and most of those who have had no experience in feeding ensilage, are opposed to this system, as being costly and wasteful. But hundreds of careful observing farmers, who have had from one to five years' experience in its use, to a man, proclaim it the most economical, and profitable method of preserving and feeding green crops to all farm live stock, and especially for dairy products and growing animals. This wide difference of opinion may be perhaps reasonably accounted for by the fact that the chemist deals in his laboratory entirely with dead matter, while the farmer deals with life, in the food, and life in animals. The chemistry of life, and the chemistry of death, may differ as much as the difference in opinion that exists between the chemist and the farmer upon this subject.

For instance, fresh June grass appears to the farmer to be a complete food for farm live stock, producing the greatest growth in young stock, and the sweetest yellow butter in the dairy. The chemist finds no difference between the grass and the hay made from it, perhaps because he makes hay of it before his analysis, although it lacks a proper proportion of protein for a complete food, that butter made from it is of indifferent flavor, and lacks color, and that it produces less growth and less quantity of milk. The same difference in results appears between the feeding of ensilage and the same material fed after being preserved by drying. Now as these stubborn facts that have been developed by the feeding of ensilage during the past few years, will not adapt themselves to the theory, established by chemists in the laboratory, would it not be well for the chemist to pause, and endeavor to find reasons that will bear the test of chemical investigation for these well established facts, so much at variance with the present development of the laboratory, and promulgate a theory more in accordance therewith?

No one can appreciate more than the writer, the benefits that agriculture has derived from chemistry during the last fifty years, or is more anxious that this discrepancy should be cleared up and explained, for farmers have learned to look to the science of chemistry to unravel many mysteries, and remove many obstacles, that now block progress in the art of farming. In response to a circular letter of inquiry for full statement of results of experience in building silos and feeding ensilage, which was issued June 10th, 1882, by the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, answers were received from sixty-nine prominent farmers, located in different parts of this country, and Canada. In every instance they were favorable to ensilage as a profitable method of preserving green fodder.

From a summary of these replies and from my own experience the following facts, and recommendations are given:

The silo should be located near where the ensilage is to be fed, but separated from the live stock, especially where cows are milked, so that no gaseous emanations, from the silo, can affect the flavor of the milk by their odors. A parasleogram is the best form for a silo. It should be partly underground, with solid concrete, or stone walls, smoothly cemented, and made impervious to water. The part that is above ground may be of wood with a strong frame to support the lateral pressure, and ceiled with planed, matched boards, one thickness being sufficient; the deeper the silo the better, up to thirty feet. The covering should be of planed, and of battened boards from two to four feet wide laid directly upon the ensilage, allowing space for settling without pressing against the sides of the silo. This covering must be weighted with any heavy material most convenient. Nothing is better than stones which a man can handle conveniently, a pressure of about two hundred pounds to the square foot is requisite for good results. The cost of building walls of masonry is from $3.50 to $5.00 per ton capacity and fifty cents or less for wooden structures.

While corn takes the lead as a crop for ensilage, any other crop used for soiling stock, makes good ensilage. The variety of corn making the largest growth, such as the Southern white, or Blunt's prolific, gives the best results. With good fertilization and cultivation, from 12 to 50 tons may be grown on an acre, according to circumstances; from 20 to 25 tons may be considered an average yield, cultivating with Thomas's smoothing harrow until the crop is eight inches high, and with a horse cultivator once later, is sufficient; no hand hoeing is required.

The average total cost of raising and filling the crop into the silo as taken from the accounts kept by 14 growers, is $2.63 per ton. The cost varied from 92 cents in Nebraska to $4.00 in Lawrence and N. Andover, Mass. The best stage of growth to cut ensilage is when the grain is in milk, three pecks or a bushel of seed to the acre sown in drills from 3 1-2 to 4 feet apart, has given the best general satisfaction.

The usual practice has been to cut the fodder for ensilage 3-8 or 1-2 inch long, and to tramp it thoroughly, but inasmuch as the breaking or cutting the celular structure of the plant produces molecular fermention, it would seem that the less cutting and mashing of the cells of the plant there is, by treading (consistent with proper packing) the better, and it is found that with sufficient weighting, (200 pounds to the square foot), cutting an inch or an inch and a half long gives better results in securing less fermentation, and hence better quality of ensilage. Ensilage has been kept two or more years in the silo in good condition, and it is not in its best condition until it has had at least two months curing in the silo.

An ordinary sized cow will eat on an average 60 pounds of ensilage per day, which should be fed in two rations, morning and evening. Corn ensilage is not considered a complete food, as it does not contain protein, carbohydrates, and fat, in proper proportions, for an economical feeding standard. The deficiency of protein and fat should be made up with articles rich in those ingredients, such as cotton-seed or Indian meal. It should be considered as a substitute for hay and roots, but not for grain. All kinds of farm live stock eat it with avidity. When fed as a substitute for hay and roots, they thrive better and increase in milk and flesh from 10 to 20 per cent more than when fed on good hay.

The milk, butter and flesh, produced from it being of superior quality, resembling that from June grass, and the cost of feeding stock with it, is less than one-half that of hay, when valued at twenty dollars per ton. It has been proved that cattle fed upon it year after year, continue in thrift and health. Many have claimed that a ton of good ensilage was worth as much as one ton of English hay, but by a carefully conducted experiment it proved that with hay at $20 per ton, a ton of corn ensilage was worth for producing milk and flesh 7.26 cents, or 2 3-4 tons was equal in value to 1 ton of hay.

It requires a good five or six horse power steam engine to run a 20-inch cutter effectively with such power. A large horse load was cut 1 1-2 inches long in five minutes repeatedly last season, but nine minutes was the usual time occupied.

A two-horse treadmill will do good work with such a cutter. John G. Walcott of Peabody, filled silos in Essex county last season with a portable 6 horse power engine and 20-inch cutter for 75 cents per ton, the corn being delivered to the cutter from the field. This is a practical way of avoiding the objection of each farmer going to the expense of owning the necessary machinery.

At a convention of farmers and others from different parts of the country interested in ensilage, held at New York, in January, 1882, after full discussion, the following resolution, was adopted:

*Resolved*, That it has become a well established fact after six years successful use in this country, and by the concurrent testimony of many intelligent farmers, that the ensilage system is of great advantage to the farming interest, as well as to all mankind.

One year later after another year's experience a similar convention was held at the same place for the same purpose. The following resolution was adopted:

*Resolved*, That the Ensilage Congress assembled in New York, January 25, 1883, desires to express to M. Auguste Goffart, of France, their appreciation of the great value of the system of ensilage discovered and introduced by him.

They recommend to the farmers of the United States its universal adoption as the cheapest and best method of preserving fodder crops.

In order to show the cost of growing ensilage and putting it into the silo I will give in detail my account with a three acre lot that had been pastured for ten years. And also what may be reasonably expected, as results from good land under ordinary circumstances. The planting of this lot was finished June 24, 1882.

DEBTOR.

| | |
|---|---|
| To breaking up with pair horses and sidehill plough 3 acres at $5 | $15 |
| Harrowing thoroughly with spring tooth harrow, 2 days, man and 2 horses, $4 | 8.00 |
| Harrowing with fine harrow and brush, ½ day | 2.00 |
| Planting with Ross corn planter, 2 men, 1 horse, ½ day at $1.25 each | 2.81 |
| 30 cwt. of Ames fertiliser at $35 per ton | 52.50 |
| Spreading the same broadcast, 1 man and horse, ½ day | 1.25 |
| 1 bushel Southern white seed corn per acre, 2½ bushel at $1.50 | 3.37 |
| July 12 harrowed over the whole with Thomas smoothing harrow in 2 hours, corn 4 in. high | 1.00 |
| July 22d harrowed second time with same, corn 8 inches high | 1.00 |
| July 29 cultivated thoroughly twice between the rows, 2 days, man and horse | 5.00 |
| It will be noticed that the whole of the fertilizer is charged crop total | $91.93 |
| Oct. 10. Finished filling the silo with the following labor: | |
| 4 men in the field cutting and loading the corn | |
| 2 horses and tip cart with 1 boy to drive to silo | |
| 3 men feeding the cutter | |
| 2 boys to shove the cut corn into the silo, it being 12 feet off, this is an unusual charge | |
| 1 man to run the engine and level in the silo | |
| Equal to 11½ men 3¼ days filling, at $1.25 each | 50.30 |
| 3¼ days use of machinery at $6 | 21.00 |
| ¼ ton coal | 3.00 74.30 |
| Total cost of ensilage in the silo | $166.23 |

CREDIT.

| | |
|---|---|
| By two tons hay per acre before ploughing estimated 6 tons at $15, standing | 90.00 |
| By 30 tons corn per acre on two acres, estimated 60 tons | |
| By 12 tons corn on one acre which suffered by drouth, 12 tons at $6 | 72.00 |
| Value of ensilage compared with hay at $20 per ton 7.26x72 tons | 522 72 |
| Total value of products of the lot | $612.72 |
| Deduct total cost of ensilage in the silo, 72 tons at $2 32½ | 166.23 |
| Nett value of product of the lot | $446 49 |

Below are given the analysis of two lots of corn at the time of cutting green for ensilage, and again two months and a half after being put in the silo.

The analyses were made at the Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station at Amherst.

Lot No. 1 was cut when in full tassel and the ears were just forming. They show silk but no grain.

Lot No. 2 was cut before any tassels appeared. Both lots were cut when in vigorous growth.

I.

| | Green corn (cut) | Ensilage from 6 ft. below surface. | Percentage of gain or loss in silo |
|---|---|---|---|
| Moisture | 84.880 | 84.125 (.755) | |
| Dry matter | 15.120 | 15.875 (.755) | |
| Ash constituents | 1.041 | 1.156 | gain 11.066 |
| Crude cellulose | 4.564 | 6.003 | gain 29.216 |
| Fat (ether abstract) | 0.169 | 0.363 | gain 232.544 |
| Non nitrogenous extract matter by-drate carbonates | 8.084 | 7.645 | loss 12.321 |
| Nitrogenous matter Protein | 1.323 | 1.307 | gain 5.915 |

II.

| | Green corn (cut) | Ensilage from 2 ft. below surface. | Percentage of gain or loss in silo. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Moisture | 87.391 | 87.698 (.301) | |
| Dry matt'r | 12.609 | 12.318 (.301) | |
| Ash constituents | 1.116 | 1.064 | loss 8.744 |
| Crude cellulose | 4.027 | 4.035 | loss 0.047 |
| Fat (ether abstract) | 0.233 | 0.305 | gain 31.712 |
| Non nitrogenous extract matter carbohydrates | 5.290 | 5.469 | gain 3.390 |
| Nitrogenous matter Protein | 1.302 | 1.254 | loss 3.664 |

A bag of corn from lot No

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.--BOSTON, SATURDAY. FEBRUARY 24, 1883.

# The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, FEB. 24, 1883.

☞ *Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.*

The tariff reform bill for the present session of Congress, is pronounced a complete failure.

Business of all kinds was suspended in Boston on Thursday, the birthday of Washington, it being a legal holiday.

An immense ice gorge swept down the Missouri river on Monday last, overflowing the low cotton lands and almost submerging one town.

Secretary Folger, at the present writing, is reported so ill as not to be able to sit up. He is not expected to be able to resume his duties for some time.

The late Governor Morgan of New York made a number of noble public bequests by his will, among them being one of $100,000 to Williams College, Mass.

The funeral of Wagner, the composer, at Bayreuth, was very impressive, and was participated in by all the town, which was draped with mourning emblems.

Dr. George B. Loring delivered an oration before the Webster Historical Society, on the 22d, in the Old South Church, on the subject of Washington as a Statesman.

The President has nominated as Civil Service Reform Commissioners Dorman B. Eaton, of New York, John M. Gregory, of Illinois, and Loring D. Thoman, of Ohio.

King Kaiakaua went through the ceremony of a public coronation in Honolulu on the 12th inst., in the presence of seven thousand persons. He had his heart set upon it for some time.

Rumors prevailed in New York, at one time this week, that William H. Vanderbilt had been afflicted with a stroke of paralysis. They were not long after, vigorously contradicted.

The Board of inquiry not only finds everything all right in connection with the Jeannette arctic expedition, but actually extols all persons alike who had anything to do with it.

The trip to Fabyan's by the commercial club, escorting their Pennsylvania guests, in mid-winter, on Monday, will never be forgotten as a marvel of energy and a profound surprise to all.

The latest reports from the flooded districts were of a most favorable character. The waters at different points is being resumed. Assistance for the sufferers has poured in from all parts of the country.

The committee on agriculture at the State House have had under consideration a petition for a State bounty for killing foxes, hawks and crows. Also, a petition to protect wild fowl in Nantucket Harbor.

An order for legislation to abolish all money penalties for crime has been heard this week by the legislative committee on prisons. Fines are imposed with the grossest inconsistency, and they do not put a stop to the crimes which they punish. Imprisonment would do a great many desirable things for society which fines never will.

The British and American express steamship company, recently organized, will adopt the Lorillard route for its vessels, now being built on the Clyde. The route is from Fort Royal, Bay, at the eastern end of Long Island, to Milford Haven, where passengers will be despatched in fast express trains to London.

It is no longer doubtful that the British government has the murderers of Cavendish and Burke in Phœnix Park tight in its hand. They were all members of a secret society styled the "Invincibles," the head of which was a person whom they styled "Number One." The latter had at all times at his command all the money he wanted, got where no one outside a very small circle knows. It was a secret organization whose one purpose was the assassination of prominent government officials in Ireland or elsewhere.

Canada's commerce is about 218 million dollars a year at the present time. Her average import duties are some twenty per cent, ad valorum. Her foreign trade about equals that of China, Turkey, or Brazil, and surpasses that of the single Australian States, or Spain. Canada trades with Great Britain quite as much as she does with the United States, particularly in such goods as are consumed by Canadians. Manitoba increases the commerce of Canada, as it was expected it would. The amount of her trade with the United States in 1882 was some 96 millions in value.

## THE IRISH INFORMERS.

Another of the accused Dublin murderers having turned informer, the revelations which have come to the public ear are startling almost beyond belief. James Carey, the Dublin city councillor, turned Queen's evidence, and exposed the whole Phœnix Park mystery. The prisoners were completely dumbfounded when they saw Carey step into the witness box, and the sensation created among the spectators was hardly less profound. The witness stated that he was the treasurer of the Fenian brotherhood, at which highly exciting remarks followed that for a time threatened an actual outbreak. The details of his story it is not necessary to give, but it is sufficient to be assured that it is one of the most damning that, if it were not true, human ingenuity could invent.

It appears from his testimony that the Secret Society to which he belonged was solemnly sworn to "remove" all the government officers in Ireland, whom they indiscriminately designated as tyrants; in other words, to murder all the officers of the government in cold blood. Such a confession might be expected to cause the wildest and deepest excitement in London as soon as it became known, especially so when the manner in which the murders in Phœnix Park were committed. Brady, it appears, was the principal stabber of Cavendish and Burke, and he crouched down behind two of the other prisoners while his guilt was being revealed. An Irish member of parliament is reported to have been arrested in consequence of the revelations. The case is one that gives almost as great a shock to public feeling in England as the horrible murders did at the first.

## THE LANDS OF THE INDIANS.

The Indian reservations are disappearing as fast as they can. The latest cry is, that they are a needless obstruction to the march of civilization. If it is really civilization that marches by the route which the land-sharks travel, it will do no harm to cry a halt. One by one the reservations are melting away. The last invasion threatened is against Indian Territory, by the band led by Payne. Senator Dawes not long since introduced a bill in the Senate, with a view to putting an end to this work forever. It provides that any person who shall unlawfully enter lands specially set apart for the use of the Indians shall, for the first offence, be fined not more than five hundred dollars and imprisoned at hard labor for not more than one year; and for the second offence and each subsequent be fined not more than one thousand nor less than five hundred dollars, and imprisonment not more than two years nor less than one.

The present law does not imprison at all, and Payne's gang of marauders defy the Government to collect a fine. The bill of Mr. Dawes provides, however, that emigrants or travellers passing peaceably through Indian reservations with no intention of trespassing, shall be free from its provisions, and be suffered to pass unmolested. If trespassers find that they may be thrown into jail and put to hard labor for one or two years for each offence, they will be pretty sure to exercise care in stepping over the limits of their own rights into those of the Indians. Two years ago the Ute reservation in Colorado was taken away from that tribe. Since then a movement has been actively making to get possession of the Crow reservation in Montana. And now it appears that the Sioux reservation in Dakota is to be reduced to about one-half of its territorial size by some sort of a contract with that tribe for eleven and one half million acres. It is yet to be seen whether the Indian gets the worth of his valuable lands or not.

## BRADLAUGH'S CASE.

The British Parliament, just convened, has a problem to solve such as it has not had on its hands since the days of the famous John Wilkes, in the last century. Charles Bradlaugh, called an infidel, was elected a member from Northampton, with a perfect understanding on the part of his constituents of the nature of his views. This was in the year 1880. When it came to taking the oath at the bar of the House, he asked leave to make affirmation instead, citing certain acts of his which had enabled him to do so in courts of law for ten years previously. A committee was appointed to consider his claim, and it was refused by the casting vote of the chairman. On the following day he volunteered to take the oath, having it in his mind to offer a bill legalizing affirmation for all those who preferred it.

Instead of permitting him to take the oath, now that he was ready to do so, a variety of obstructing movements was begun, which ended only with the last session which preceded the present one. While his election was admitted to be legal, still the Speaker of the House permitted interruptions as if with a view purposely to prevent the very thing for not doing which at first exceptions were taken to him. His case was so manipulated that a bare majority of a very small minority of members could prevent hundreds of members, equally with himself, from taking their seats. This evidently was not contemplated in law, whatever might be the temper or purpose of the House. Another committee, however, was finally appointed, and reported that Mr. Bradlaugh should be permitted to take the oath, saying that to deny him that right would be without precedent.

The House adopted the committee's report, and Mr. Bradlaugh sat for five months. The courts, however, were employed to make it appear that he had incurred penalties amounting to more than half a million dollars by obeying this illegal recommendation of the House; and his enemies thought his power was now completely broken; but his friends came forward and paid the whole amount of the imposed fines, and thus put that matter finally to rest. When it was decided in the courts that a man could not be made a member of parliament by affirmation merely, Mr. Bradlaugh resigned his seat, was reelected, and unhesitatingly went forward to take the oath. In this he was again hindered, and his private beliefs were made the staple of the debate that ensued. Mr. Gladstone and the Liberals generally, however, were on Mr. Bradlaugh's side, but he was refused permission to be sworn, as other members were.

Thus, though legally elected to parliament from Northampton, he was refused permission to qualify either by affirmation or oath; and, to crown the whole proceedings as a mixture of inconsistencies, the mayor of Northampton prosecuted him in court for *not* taking the oath, which he was all the time willing to do. Then came petitions and protests from Northampton, but parliament gave no heed to them. Orders of exclusion were passed, to which he paid just as little heed. He then proceeded to take the oath himself in the presence of the House, as the statute allowed him. For this he was hooted and howled at and a vote of expulsion was passed. His constituents promptly reelected him, this being his third election. It was in August, 1881, that he was forcibly ejected from the House by fourteen policemen. His seating is now the one question in which the great body of workingmen in England are intensely interested.

**The Lesson of the Floods.**—The final receding of the floods in the entire section which is embraced in the term Ohio Valley releases the thoughts from the special subject to which they have so long been applied with such intensity, and enables us to give room to reflection upon the event. The devastation is by no means yet complete. Six months hence or less, these same rivers will be seen meandering through sandy plains, mere threads of streams. Any one may well ask why this display of extremes in the case of rivers. The answer is not far to seek. It is owing to the denudations of the forests. It is from lack of trees that the rivers, great and small, alternately dry up to almost nothing and then burst forth again, as at this season, in perfect torrents, carrying destruction in their course. When will the lesson be learned? The trouble originates with the stripping of the country of its trees. And it will continue until the forests are restored. Is it not perfectly easy to see how a smiling land, once populous with towns and cities, should now present the half deserted appearance that Asia Minor does?

**Herdell's Confession.**—The confession of Herdell, the confidential clerk and bookkeeper of L. W. Dorsey, in the star-route business, utterly demolishes all theories of innocence on the part of the defendants. It makes the case as bad as it possibly can be. Among the items of evidence is a memorandum in Dorsey's own hand, a tabular statement, having the route in the first column, then the termini, next the pay, then the expected increase. He detailed certain interviews with Dorsey that are extremely convincing. Parts of the testimony given by him were very touching. The robbery is one of the most flagrant in our times.

**The Ohio River** has been receding steadily since Monday, though it appeared to take some time to make up its mind. As the waters at Cincinnati receded, business closely followed up, and more freight was at once offered at the railroads than could be handled. The gas companies were unable to get the water from their mains for a long time, but the city is once more lighted by them. The floods went on and continued their destructive work below Cairo.

**Mr. Gladstone's** health is reported to have been greatly improved by his residence in France, at Cannes, and his activity, intellectual and physical, is as ceaseless as ever. It is this, combined with his hearty way, that makes him the idol of the people; no less is he felt to be the dread of his colleagues, one of whom made the apothegmatic remark that he was too much always in the right. He has been telegraphed to at Cannes to remain there until after Easter, which occurs on the 27th of March, and husband his strength. He indignantly refuses. Since that untimely request he is said to have been working hard at some of the bills which are to be produced at the coming session.

Gov. Butler and Council paid a visit to the Concord State Prison on Monday, and addressed the prisoners, practically introducing to them the new warden, Col. Usher. His address was an unusual. He told the convicts why they were there, and what was expected of them; and that according to the way they treated the new Warden they would be treated themselves. He told them he had given the Warden directions to allow them to write to him, the Governor, freely of their complaints. He further explained to them why he removed Warden Earle.

In His Prelude to his last Monday's discourse, Rev. Joseph Cook said that national aid to education is the only adequate remedy for the national evil of illiteracy. Coming recently from distant lands, he reports that he found the many a country on earth is more sensitive to its illiteracy than we appear to be to that of our own nation. Greece to day expends more money for her common schools in proportion to her wealth than we do. Japan does also, and has a larger proportion of her children in school than we have. England and Scotland are verging close upon New England in their taxes for the abolition of illiteracy.

Our silver dollar, which is accumulating on our hands so rapidly, is held largely responsible for our continued failure to import gold. After our proposed treaty with Mexico goes into effect, we shall be pretty sure to import larger quantities of silver from that country, whose mines are regarded as inexhaustible, which will make silver worth even less than it is now, and will more and more drive gold from the country.

## WHAT CONGRESS IS DOING.

The Senate has been making what is practically a continuous session of it over the tariff bill. It sat until two o'clock on Tuesday morning, a determination having been expressed to "sit out" the bill.

A large number of new bills were introduced in the House on Monday, which is regular billday.

A motion in the House to suspend the rules and pass the bill to reduce internal revenue taxation, was negatived, after a short debate over it, by a vote of 162 to 97.

The disposition of the War and Navy department is very strong to appropriate and control the bureaus of civil administration.

Secretary Frelinghuysen has asked the German government to let a commission of experts come over to this country and examine American pork before its importation into Germany is forbidden.

Congress has but one more week in which to enjoy an existence. It may hold till noon on Sunday, March 4, or it may adjourn during Saturday night.

The Senate finally passed its tariff bill on Tuesday night, by which a reduction in the revenues is effected, amounting anywhere from eighteen to thirty millions. It is extremely doubtful if it goes through the House.

The prospect of passing a tariff bill at this session is not a good one, and many members are in despair over the confusion into which matters are thrown.

A bill was passed in the Senate extending the time for filing claims in the Alabama Claims Court.

The House was largely engaged in the consideration of the sundry civil appropriation bill in committee of the whole. When disposed of, it will be followed by the deficiency bill.

A resolution was adopted for printing 300,000 copies of the agricultural report of 1883.

The confession of the witness Rerdell, in the star-route trial, has absorbed attention during the week at the capital much more than the doings of Congress all put together.

## AT THE STATE HOUSE.

An effort is making to abolish the naturalization law, which was enacted during the know-nothing excitement and has ever since been in force.

Two reports have been made in the House on the increase of salaries. The report was quietly accepted, that it is inexpedient to legislate on the question of increasing the pay of members.

The bill was rejected providing for the preaching in the Hall of Representatives of the election sermon.

A vote was passed permitting the Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Company to invest half a million dollars by obeying this illegal recommendation of the House; and his enemies thought his power was now completely broken; but his friends came forward and paid the whole amount of the imposed fines, and thus put that matter finally to rest. When it was decided in the courts that a man could not be made a member of parliament by affirmation merely, Mr. Bradlaugh resigned his seat, was reelected, and unhesitatingly went forward to take the oath. In this he was again hindered, and his private beliefs were made the staple of the debate that ensued. Mr. Gladstone and the Liberals generally, however, were on Mr. Bradlaugh's side, but he was refused permission to be sworn, as other members were.

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**The Lesson of the Floods.**—The final receding of the floods in the entire section which is embraced in the term Ohio Valley releases the thoughts from the special subject to which they have so long been applied with such intensity, and enables us to give room to reflection upon the event. The devastation is by no means yet complete. Six months hence or less, these same rivers will be seen meandering through sandy plains, mere threads of streams. Any one may well ask why this display of extremes in the case of rivers. The answer is not far to seek. It is owing to the denudations of the forests. It is from lack of trees that the rivers, great and small, alternately dry up to almost nothing and then burst forth again, as at this season, in perfect torrents, carrying destruction in their course. When will the lesson be learned? The trouble originates with the stripping of the country of its trees. And it will continue until the forests are restored. Is it not perfectly easy to see how a smiling land, once populous with towns and cities, should now present the half deserted appearance that Asia Minor does?

**Herdell's Confession.**—The confession of Herdell, the confidential clerk and bookkeeper of L. W. Dorsey, in the star-route business, utterly demolishes all theories of innocence on the part of the defendants. It makes the case as bad as it possibly can be. Among the items of evidence is a memorandum in Dorsey's own hand, a tabular statement, having the route in the first column, then the termini, next the pay, then the expected increase. He detailed certain interviews with Dorsey that are extremely convincing. Parts of the testimony given by him were very touching. The robbery is one of the most flagrant in our times.

**The Ohio River** has been receding steadily since Monday, though it appeared to take some time to make up its mind. As the waters at Cincinnati receded, business closely followed up, and more freight was at once offered at the railroads than could be handled. The gas companies were unable to get the water from their mains for a long time, but the city is once more lighted by them. The floods went on and continued their destructive work below Cairo.

**Mr. Gladstone's** health is reported to have been greatly improved by his residence in France, at Cannes, and his activity, intellectual and physical, is as ceaseless as ever. It is this, combined with his hearty way, that makes him the idol of the people; no less is he felt to be the dread of his colleagues, one of whom made the apothegmatic remark that he was too much always in the right. He has been telegraphed to at Cannes to remain there until after Easter, which occurs on the 27th of March, and husband his strength. He indignantly refuses. Since that untimely request he is said to have been working hard at some of the bills which are to be produced at the coming session.

Gov. Butler and Council paid a visit to the Concord State Prison on Monday, and addressed the prisoners, practically introducing to them the new warden, Col. Usher. His address was an unusual. He told the convicts why they were there, and what was expected of them; and that according to the way they treated the new Warden they would be treated themselves. He told them he had given the Warden directions to allow them to write to him, the Governor, freely of their complaints. He further explained to them why he removed Warden Earle.

In His Prelude to his last Monday's discourse, Rev. Joseph Cook said that national aid to education is the only adequate remedy for the national evil of illiteracy. Coming recently from distant lands, he reports that he found the many a country on earth is more sensitive to its illiteracy than we appear to be to that of our own nation. Greece to day expends more money for her common schools in proportion to her wealth than we do. Japan does also, and has a larger proportion of her children in school than we have. England and Scotland are verging close upon New England in their taxes for the abolition of illiteracy.

Our silver dollar, which is accumulating on our hands so rapidly, is held largely responsible for our continued failure to import gold. After our proposed treaty with Mexico goes into effect, we shall be pretty sure to import larger quantities of silver from that country, whose mines are regarded as inexhaustible, which will make silver worth even less than it is now, and will more and more drive gold from the country.

## READ AND RUN.

—The demoralization of the telegraph wires, in consequence of the western floods, was complete from Buffalo to Omaha, and from St. Paul to Cairo. In many cases the poles are washed away, and the prevalence of fog caused such a rapid escape of electric fluid and such induction that business, even where the lines were intact, could be done only with great difficulty.

—Fears of a flood in the Upper Hudson River have been expressed. The snow in the Green Mountains and the Adirondacks is very heavy, in many places being over five feet deep on a level.

—There is a great deal of burglarizing and house thieving in Boston and its suburbs.

—Twenty thousand persons were rendered homeless in Cincinnati by the rise of the Ohio River.

—The coast survey steamer Blake has made herself famous by accomplishing a deeper sounding in the Atlantic Ocean than has ever before been made. It touched bottom at 4,561 fathoms.

—When the first number of the new Chinese newspaper appeared in New York, street pedlers hawked it in the city and suburbs, newsdealers offered it on railroad trains and in hotels, out-of-town journals published fac similes of its first page, newspaper wags poked fun at it, and in general it obtained a sudden notoriety such as not one in a thousand of new ventures in journalism ever attain.

—Seven great grindstones burst, in an Ohio nail factory, in consequence of a derangement of the belting, which left the huge stones to whirl at a prodigious speed that made them fly to pieces. It would have been obviated by stopping the engine.

—Fifty convicts in prison dress, who had been taken from their work in the prison shops at Sing Sing, or from their cells, without previous notice either to themselves or the Warden, were summoned before the legislative committee on prisons to testify as to their treatment and their observations of the treatment of their fellow convicts.

—An apple, that is ninety-six years old and in a perfect state of preservation, is said to be in the possession of a gentleman in Ulster county, New York.

—Westfield people have been taking their turn at mining stocks, with the usual result.

—The students of Harvard College are said to be in great danger of fire from their dormitories, which are four and five stories high, the stairways being often winding and narrow, and no fire-escapes being provided. The Harvard Herald warns the College authorities not to wait until serious disaster has taught them their duty.

—Secretary Folger of the Treasury has been suffering from malaria and indigestion.

—Under the policy of Gen. Grant, all the great missionary boards became personally acquainted with the North American Indians.

—Senator Edmunds and family are to go to the Pacific coast by way of New Mexico, spend the summer in Oregon, and return in the fall by the Northern Pacific Railroad.

—Oscar Wilde is reported to be studying for the stage, and will appear first as Romeo.

—A violin in North Carolina is described by a paper of that State as two and a half centuries old.

—This is the day of cheap titles. Everybody has one, except those only who are abundantly able to do without, and positively prefer it.

—The first teacher of the late Gov. Morgan of New York is now living, at the age of ninety-one. The Governor's father kept a tavern in his day.

—Gen. Sherman has resigned the office of City Collector of Boston, to take office in the Bell Telephone Company.

—The defaulting officers in the City Bank of Jersey City, whose conduct ruined that institution, were each and all sentenced to long terms in State Prison.

—A shark, caught at a Long Island life-saving station as it came ashore, ten feet long and weighing two hundred pounds, was sent to Prof. Baird at Washington, who pronounced it a very remarkable species, never before seen on the American coast.

—The prospect for the next season's crop of peaches in New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Ulster County, New York, is a very good one. If the peach buds are not killed by the cold weather up to the end of the present week, the prospect is reported to be all but sure for a crop of peaches.

—The entire liabilities of the Dominion of Canada are something over two hundred million dollars.

—It is gratifying to have the announcement made that the bill to check the importation of vile teas will be passed through Congress at its present session.

—The legislature of New York passed a bill fixing the rates of fare on elevated railroads in New York city at five cents.

—The cause of the floods in the Ohio Valley will prove to be the destruction of forests.

—The late Gov. Jewell of Connecticut left an estate valued at half a million dollars. By his will he made no public bequests.

—Rev. Joseph Cook says it is only a surmise with him that the soul remains with the body for hours after death.

—The brewers in Canada, who hold mortgages on thousands of drinking saloons, are moving for a change in the liquor law, licensing the bar instead of its keeper.

—It is held by Prof. Skelton of the Kansas State Agricultural College that the cultivators of such crops as furnish but little if any stock feed will ultimately lead to serious consequences in the loss of fertility by the land so cultivated.

—Green hair is the newest fashion from Paris. The color can be imparted only to white hair.

—The New England manufacturers are showing an increasing preference for one-story factories, and such structures are being built in many places where the nature of sites permits. They are found to be not only more convenient and safe than the high buildings, but they are free from that vibration which looms impart to tall structures.

—The London Saturday Review says that Englishmen, in respect to Americans, "take the attitude of a deaf adder who sticks his tail into his one ear, and presses the other on the ground."

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—Dr. Bell, in a lecture before the Paris Faculty of Medicine, said there is a broad frontier between folly and reason, between sanity and insanity, peopled by millions of inhabitants. He held that the number of persons perfectly reasonable on all points throughout the entire period of their existence formed but a minority of mankind.

## MARRIAGES.

In Everett, Feb. 14th, by Rev. R. P. Bush, Mr. Clarence A. E. Clough of Portsmouth, N. H., to Miss S. Fannie Dickey of Malden.

In Somerville, Feb. 10th, by Rev. Mr. Mills, Charles A. Taylor of Somerville to Jeanette Lord of Charlestown.

In Malden, Feb. 18th, by Rev. S. F. Jones, F. Horton Hinson of Vineyard Haven to Susan G. Hale of Malden.

In Duxbury, Mass., Feb. 15th, by Rev. E. L. Chute, William Standley DeWolf, formerly of this city, to Mary Lee Hamilton of Duxbury.

## DEATHS.

In this city, Feb. 19th, Mary W. Gardner, wife of G. P. Hartshorn, 34 years 10 months.

In this city, Feb. 18th, Dr. George Russell, 87 yrs.

In Duxbury, Mass., Feb. 16th, Mr. Charles H. Brown, 63 years 10 months 14 days.

In Concord, Mass., Feb. 18th, Sarah C., daughter of the late John Brown, 67 years 11 months.

In Canton, Mass., Feb. 19th, Albert M. Chase, 76 years.

In Boston Highlands, Feb. 18th, J. Bancroft, youngest son of Mary W. and the late Henry Howard, formerly of Salem, Mass.

In Cambridge, Feb. 19th, Adeline Howland, widow of Freeman Howland.

In Dedham, Feb. 15th, Mary M., wife of Charles H. Holt.

In South Scituate, Feb. 16th, Martin Cushing, 72 years 7 month.

In Essex, Mass., Feb. 16th, Simon Butler, 75 years 8 months.

In Dorchester, Feb. 15th, Clarissa E. Winn, 76 years 8 months.

In Beverly Farms, Feb. 17th, Mr. David Larcom, in the 76th year of his age.

In Lawrence, Feb. 18th, Rosamond, youngest daughter of the Rev. William and Julia Lawrence.

## DEATH ON THE RAILWAY.

New Haven, Conn., Feb. 18.—At 12.58 A. M. a sleigh containing William Myers, William Howe, Alice Franke, Emma Mottram and Alice Holmes, returning from a visit to the skating rink at Meriden, left Miss Holmes at her residence in Wallingford, corner of Cherry and Center streets. The party drove to the railroad crossing on the main thoroughfare of the borough, which during the day is protected by gates, but is left open at night. A row of coal sheds on the south side of the street and the freight depot of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Road prevent a view of the track until one comes directly upon it. Fifteen freight cars were standing on the west side of the track above and below the crossing, leaving only a narrow passage, effectually concealing the approaching train, which came at lightning speed from New York. Myers drove upon the track and the train struck the sleigh, killing Myers instantly. Howe lived twenty minutes, his skull being fractured and left thigh bone broken. Miss Franke's skull was fractured and her brains exuded as she was taken up. She died at five o'clock this morning. Miss Mottram sustained injury of the spine and severe internal injuries, and but faint hopes are entertained of her recovery. Four or five inhabitants of Wallingford, who were awake at the time, say positively that no whistle was sounded. The Coroner's jury was impaneled at 7 o'clock this morning, and adjourned to half-past four, taking testimony. It is likely that the jury will censure the company, as there is great indignation among Wallingford people at the gross negligence of the engineer.

☞ *Joseph H. Brock & Sons'* Annual Descriptive Catalogue of Seeds, etc., was issued on the first day of February, and has deservedly created a sensation in the great annual catalogue field for the comprehensive fullness of its descriptions, its almost bewildering variety, its safe and accurate advice and suggestions, and the number and brilliancy of its illustrations. The illuminated cover is, without exception, the handsomest and most effective product of the designing and color-printing art that we have yet seen on any of the large number of seed and plant catalogues issued for the current year. The present catalogue is all but a little library of itself; much more than a mere index; a companionable guide and friend in the mazes of the garden walks and alleys, across the lawn, down the orchard, and into the field. It is a worthy representative of a worthy house, which all will want to see.

The Raymond California Excursions.—The annual series of California Tours, under the management of Messrs. W. Raymond and I. A. Whitcomb, will leave Boston respectively on Feb. 8, 12 and 26. The Raymond trips have been made with great success for two years, and we have no doubt that this year they will be equally satisfactory. It seems wonderful when we think of it that a trip of fifty-nine days, covering nearly 10,000 miles, can be made, following rigidly on established schedule, but Messrs. Raymond and Whitcomb will do it, and we will do it for them without any travelling whatever on the Sabbath. One of the editors of this journal accompanied the party a year ago and is glad to avail of the testimony to that of the many who have expressed themselves as thoroughly satisfied with the arrangements for the journey. A very neat and interesting book with full descriptions of the trip will be given or sent free, upon application to W. Raymond, 240 Washington St., Boston.—[The Congregationalist.

☞ Valentine's knitting mill at Bennington, Vt., was destroyed by fire Monday evening, together with a large part of the contents. The fire was discovered by a watchman while making his nine o'clock round, and in the third story of the main building, smoke coming in his face upon opening the door, which was immediately followed by flames. This is all that is known of the cause of the fire. The building was lighted with coal gas. This mill had lately been enlarged, repaired and had just commenced running on full time. The loss will exceed $100,000.

Pittsford, Mass., Sept. 28, 1878.

Sirs—I have taken Hop Bitters and recommend them to others, as I found them very beneficial. Mrs. J. W. Tuller,

See Women's Christian Temperance Union.

☞ William Walker, aged 23, was killed by a blast at Readsboro' while walking on the highway 50 rods from the place of blasting. A three-pound piece struck him on the head, fell across Deerfield River and struck Walker, crushing him into jelly. A mother and two sisters were dependent on him for support.

☞ Sprains, Lameness, Pains and Stitches, Weak Back or Disease of the Spine will be immediately relieved on application of a *Hop Plaster* over the affected part. It's penetrative power is wonderful. Warranted to be the best made.

The Department of State has received information that the United States Consul at Victoria, British Columbia, that the barque Malleville, of Freeport, Me., bound from China to that port, struck a reef on the west coast of Vancouver Island on the 10th of October last and was wrecked. Not a being on board is known to have escaped.

☞ Winter butter made with Thatcher's Orange Butter Color pleases the eye and moulds the palate. See advertisement. feb24 2t

—Oscar Richardson, an insane patient at the Brattleboro' Asylum, turned the hot water faucet in a bath room on Friday and sat in the boiling water, until fatally scalded. He died during the night.

## WHAT PHYSICIANS SAY.

Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N.Y.: *Dear Sir*—I have employed your "Pleasant Purgative Pellets" in my practice for the last four years. I now use no other alterative or cathartic medicine in all chronic derangements of the stomach, liver, and bowels. I know of nothing that equals them. J. A. Millei, M. D.

*San Leandro, Cal.*

☞ Henry Douglas 35 years old, with a wife and two children, fell on the wall into a wheel pit at the Newton Brass Pulp Mill in Readsboro' Monday fracturing his skull and receiving internal injuries. He will not live.

## AN ACHING BACK

Is oftentimes a more serious matter than it seems. If it proceeds from disordered kidneys, the sufferer has real cause for alarm—and nine times out of ten it does come from the kidneys. Reader, if such is your trouble, you can rely on Hunt's Remedy 400 soon. Your case may become very serious before you know it. Hunt's Remedy, the great Kidney and Liver medicine, is a sure cure. *Its* ONLY cure, indeed, for all ailments of the kidney, bladder, liver, and urinary organs—very dangerous diseases.

A heavy wind prevailed east of the Hoosac Mountain Monday, and particularly at Zoar. The depot building at that place, 60 by 20, was blown to pieces and the foundation moved four feet. Passengers and operators ran out when the chimney fell and were not injured. A freight car was blown across the Troy and Greenfield track, and a wrecking train was brought from North Adams to move it.

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**The Twenty-one Prisoners** who have been committed will take their trial on the charge of murdering Lord Cavendish and Secretary Burke, early next month. The crown counsel, after their committal, said it was with great reluctance that the crown had accepted the evidence of a prisoner who might have been the director and instigator of the tragedy. It had been done, however, in the interest of public safety, and for the public good. He trusted that the executive had thereby obtained the power to perfectly penetrate this fearful organization, and he hoped to make amenable to justice the plotters as well as the perpetrators of the murder. An important member of the conspiracy is an unknown man who went by the name of Number One. The Freeman's Journal, published at Dublin, says the mystery of the murders is only half unfolded. We must await the denouement, it adds, before expressing a verdict. The prospect now is that the mystery will be sounded to the very bottom.

## GENERAL IMPROVEMENT.

"I am feeling quite well. No cough; *appetite good*; regular in my habits; and I am very much encouraged. * * * I do not feel that difficulty in breathing; nor do I feel so nervous." Our Treatise on Compound Oxygen, its nature, action and results, with reports of cases and full information, *sent free*. Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1109 and 1111 Girard Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

☞ A fatal burning accident occurred at East Bridgewater on Saturday morning. Thomas Rogers, one of the oldest citizens, was discovered on the floor in the sitting room of his dwelling at an early hour in an unconscious state, his arm, side and chest being terribly burned. Mrs. Judkins, wife of W. M. Judkins, who occupies the west half of Mr. Rogers's house, noticing the smell of smoke, hastened to the room of Mr. Rogers from whence it seemed to proceed, and discovered him in the condition described. Medical aid was at once summoned, but his injuries were so severe that the patient lived but a few hours. Mr. Rogers was the youngest of the sons of Samuel Rogers, the other brothers, Jacob A. and Capt. Charles, having died within a few years. The Brockton Gazette says that the accident is supposed to have been caused by his shirt sleeve taking fire from the lamp. Mr. Rogers in his alarm and exertion to put out the fire probably fell and having but one leg was unable to help himself.

☞ Ayer's Pills cure constipation, improve the appetite, promote digestion, restore healthy action, and regulate every function. They are pleasant to take, gentle in their operation, yet thorough, searching, and powerful in subduing disease.

☞ The fishing schooner Martha A. Bradley, of Gloucester, arrived at this port Monday from a cruise, reports Feb. 17, off George's Shoals, two of the crew while out trawling were washed separated from the vessel during a dense fog, and as all efforts to ascertain their position were unavailing, the vessel was compelled to return without them. It is feared that both were lost, although they may have had the good fortune to be picked up by some other fishing vessel, as there were several in that vicinity. The names of the missing men are James Frost, a native of Pigeon Cove, Mass., aged 36 years, and John Nelson of Gloucester, Mass, 46 years old. The latter was married and leaves a wife and one child.

The fishing schooner Henry Wilson, of Gloucester, Capt. Beaton, also arrived here Monday from George's Shoals. Reports that in two seamen named Charles F. Buchard and John Tarbox, belonging to schooner Clara F. Friend, who were picked up in a dory on the 12th inst., having become separated from their vessel in a dense fog while tending trawls. The vessel to which they belong is still cruising outside.

## HOW WOMEN WOULD VOTE.

Were women allowed to vote, every one in the land who has used Dr. Pierce's "Favorite Prescription" would vote it to be an unfailing remedy for the diseases peculiar to her sex. By druggists.

— The snow is about five feet deep in the vicinity of Moultonboro', N. H.

## "ROUGH ON RATS."

Clears out rats, mice, roaches, flies, ants, bedbugs, skunks, chipmunks, gophers. 15c. Druggists. mch11-y

# Domestic Markets.

## BOSTON PRODUCE MARKET.

**Wholesale Prices.**

**Beans.**—Market weak and prices lower. We quote large hand-picked pea-beans at $2 55@2 60; small do at $2 75@2 80, and screened do at $2 50@2 65; medium, screened at $2 25@2 40, and hand-picked do at $2 50@2 55; choice improved yellow eyes at $3 10@3 20; old-fashioned yellow eyes at $3 25@3 35, and red kidneys nominal at $3 50. Canada peas continue dull at 90@$1 00 ⅌ bush for common roasting lots and $1 10@1 20 for choice. Split peas are quiet at $6 00@6 25 ⅌ bbl, with green peas at $1 40@1 50 ⅌ bush for choice Western, and $1 15@1 20 for Northern.

**Seeds.**—Trade is quiet, and prices are nominal at quotations. We quote timothy, fair to good at $2 00@2 15; prime at $2 25@2 35; choice at $2 40@2 50; Western clover at 12@13c ⅌ lb, and Northern at 13@14c ⅌ lb; New Jersey red-top at $3 25, and Western do at $3 25 ⅌ sack; millet is at $1 25 ⅌ bush; German do at $1 50.

**Fruit.**—Prices are nominally unchanged. We quote good cooking apples at $2 00@3 00 ⅌ bbl; choice Baldwins at $3 50@5 75, with some freshly packed fancy stock at $4 00, in a quiet way, and greenings at $3 00@3 25, with some fancy higher. Evaporated apples continue quiet but

**Our Citizens desire no notoriety, but are always ready to proclaim the truth.**

MRS. GEO. DAWLEY of 76 Knight Street, Providence, R. I., relates to our reporter her experience with the wonderful curative properties of what is destined soon to be the standard and leading specific of the whole wide world, for Kidney and Liver diseases, etc. Mrs. D. says:—

"Early last spring I was severely afflicted with torpidity of the kidneys and enlargement of the liver, and the Kidney disease came upon me so fast and suddenly that before I was scarcely aware of the cause of my trouble I became badly bloated, and my body and limbs very much swollen, so that it was with great difficulty and severe pain that I was able to walk any. I became dreadfully troubled by being short-breathed, so that even a slight exertion or a little exercise would tire me almost to exhaustion, and I was so distressed when I retired nights that I could not sleep, and was very restless. One of my limbs especially had a very severe nervous pain, which always seemed to be more severe at night than at any other time, and would frequently ache so sharply as to arouse me from sleep. I was very nervous and uncomfortable all the time, and was getting doctored, and taking all kinds of medicine for this complaint and that and the other, but all to no good purpose, until at about the time when I was tired out and somewhat disgusted and almost discouraged with medicines and doctors, a relative and highly-esteemed friend persuaded me to try Hunt's Remedy. I began to take it a few days ago, and am happily disappointed by the result, for before I had used a bottle of it I began to feel relieved, and soon commenced to sleep splendidly; the severe nervous pains in my limb which I had to handle so tenderly do not appear any more, my headache and backache have disappeared, I feel well every way, and rest well at night. The swelling has disappeared from my body and limbs. I am now able to do my housework comfortably and easily. Hunt's Remedy has certainly done wonders for me."

MRS. GEO. DAWLEY."

**Safe and Reliable.**

A. W. BROWN, M. D., of Providence, R. I., says, "I have used Hunt's Remedy in my practice for the past sixteen years, and cheerfully recommend it as being a safe and reliable remedy."

Hunt's Remedy is purely a vegetable compound, scientifically prepared by a first-class registered Pharmacist, and will surely cure all diseases of the Kidneys, Bladder, Liver, and Urinary Organs.—COE.

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ACHING NERVES CAUSE

AGONY!

PERRY DAVIS'S PAIN KILLER BRINGS

RELIEF!

NEURALGIA
SCIATICA
TOOTHACHE
EARACHE

And the whole noxious family of nerve diseases are cured by

Perry Davis's Pain Killer

SURE!

ALL RESPECTABLE DRUGGISTS KEEP "PAIN KILLER."

apl-eowy

HEART DISEASE!

IS YOUR HEART SOUND?

*Many people think themselves sick and doctor for kidney or liver troubles, or dyspepsia, while all the time their real trouble is at the heart.*

*The renowned Dr. Cundinning, startingly says "Ninefifths of the fatal diseases of the day originate in a muscle and whalf, resting not day or night! Besides the added shock and fatal attention,*

*Dr. Graves a celebrated physician has prepared a work "Heart Disease and How to Cure Them." Hundreds Have Been Cured*

*Hundreds of Dr. Graves' Heart Regulator and can be obtained at your druggists, $1. per bottle, or sent by express on receipt of price. Send stamp for Dr. Graves' thorough and exhaustive treatise. (1)*

*F. E. Ingalls, Sole American Agent, Concord, N. H.*

HEART TROUBLES!

aug25-eowy (m)

**Hop Bitters are the Purest and Best Bitters Ever Made.**

They are compounded from Hops, Malt, Buchu, Mandrake and Dandelion,—the oldest, best, and most valuable medicines in the world and contain all the best and most curative properties of all other remedies, being the greatest Blood Purifier, Liver Regulator, and Life and Health Restoring Agent on earth. No di-ease or ill health can possibly long exist where Hop Bitters are used, so varied and perfect are their operations.

They give new life and vigor to the aged and infirm. To all whose employments cause irregularity of the bowels or urinary organs, or who require an Appetizer, Tonic and mild Stimulant, Hop Bitters are invaluable, being highly curative, tonic and stimulating, without intoxicating.

No matter what your feelings or symptoms are, what the disease or ailment is, use Hop Bitters. Don't wait until you are sick, but if you only feel bad or miserable, use Hop Bitters at once. It may save your life. Hundreds have been saved by so doing. $50 will be paid for a case they will not cure or help.

Do not suffer or let your friends suffer, but use and urge them to use Hop Bitters.

Remember, Hop Bitters is no vile, drugged, drunken nostrum, but the Purest and Best Medicine ever made; the "Invalid's Friend and Hope," and no person or family should be without them. Try the Bitters to-day. apr15-y

WHEAT BITTERS

THE BEST AND The Richest

BLOOD, BRAIN and NERVE

-F-O-O-D-

CAREFULLY PREPARED. THOROUGHLY TESTED. ACCEPTABLE AND RELIABLE.

The Phosphates of the Wheat are the most valuable food property, and are, when properly prepared, the most available nutriment with which to build up the system.

The Blood, Brain and Nerves are the forces which bear the brunt of existing forces and life, and in order to save sickness it is wise to BUILD FOR HEALTH.

Wheat Bitters are prepared, not by *ferments*—but by solution and are richest in the Phosphates, while the starch and impurities are eliminated. These make in themselves a basis, to which is added the best and choicest medicinal qualities, necessary to make it a tonic and bitter. It is a compound, pleasant to the taste and must not be confounded with the thousand and one cheap alcoholic bitters which are sold at one-silly. Medicine is doubly effective when used with food, as the taste is not lost while it remains and

Sold by druggists, $1.00 per bottle.

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IN HARD OR SOFT, HOT OR COLD WATER.

SAVES LABOR, TIME and SOAP AMAZINGLY, and gives universal satisfaction.

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apl2-20-J-A-S-D-J-J-M


## AMERICAN BANDS OF MERCY.

*The History of the Founding, Aims, and Works of the American Bands of Mercy, by their Secretary, Rev. Thomas Timmins. Chapter 2.*

Before proceeding with the formation and founding of American Bands of Mercy, with Mr. Angell, it is right we should take a parting glance at the work in England. Here, it is proper to say that we never knew, while in England, where or when Bands of Mercy were first started, or who originated them. We did not know that Mrs. Catharine Smithies founded them in England several years since, until Mr. Angell mentioned it in his admirable appeal to ministers of Massachusetts. We never saw or were present at any Band of Mercy in England but our own at Portsmouth, and the way of conducting it we only deemed best after a long experience and the best thought of other workers. This is how it came into existence. At committee meetings of the Royal Society, the matter came up of how to prevent cruelty; and we said it seemed strange to be warning, fining, and imprisoning adults for cruelty, and not try to prevent it by training children up from the most discernably gentle and kind. Some months later, Miss Robinson's assistant said to us one night, pointing to a very little child, "Must we take them so young?" "Take them," we said, "in their mother's arms, if brought. They can learn kindness from the mother's eye and face from their earliest day." Some one said, "There are Bands of Mercy or something for that purpose." "Then," we said, "The sooner we get them, the better. So we went with Mr. Hoyles, the excellent Secretary of the Portsmouth and Gosport Branch of the R. S. P. C. A. to see Miss Robinson as to what could be done. She entered into the matter heartily, and promised the use of the Sailor Boy's Room. At a large meeting of young people at a magic lantern exhibition and lecture by Miss Robinson, we moved the resolution forming the Band: but, when it came to actual work, we commenced the Band with only several persons, but, persevering, worked it up to about four hundred. Specifically, bands are founded in England to teach the young to be kind and not cruel to animals. As conductor of the Portsmouth Band, from the first we taught the children that that Band was to teach them to be kind to one another and all human beings as well as animals. That was an important step in advance, to be afterward fully realized in the founding and constitution of American Bands of Mercy:

The times being now ripe, with Mr. Angell we entered on the work. Together, we mutually labored, in faith, in hope, in love, in this mission of goodwill and mercy to all God's creatures. A labor of love, we willingly gave ourselves with our best thought and life unreservedly to it. We had the untried and new world of America before us, to be won to his gracious cause of Christ and God, if we only had the faith, the patience, and the power of mind and heart to do it. No one but God and our two selves can tell how devotedly, concientiously, and prayerfully we labored together through the hot close months, never relaxing or giving way. Though both of us were weak and occasionally ill, still we pressed on, to be ready and well equipped for the autumnal campaign, and when the holiday times of both young and old would be over. We mutually determined that every word, sentence, thing and move should be carefully and deliberately considered before being acted on, that the American Bands of Mercy should be suited to America, and its life, should be founded on a deeper, broader, and more lasting foundation than those in England, and have a better and more enduring system of organization. Only now, December, 1882, the English bands, following our lead, are thinking of becoming more united and better organized by placing at their head, as the first president, that true nobleman of nature, humanity and God, the Earl of Shaftesbury. A better or more worthy choice we think they could not make.

In England, the bands only include kindness to animals; here, they should take in all harmless living creatures, both human and dumb. While in England there was little or no organization, here American Bands should all be branches of the Parent Band of Mercy of America, and it should be joined to and associated with the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and with any others desiring it, or forming Bands of Mercy. Like the Parent Band, we, with it as general officers of President, Secretary, and Treasurer, each local branch should have its officers to carry on the work according to the needs and best opportunities of the school, the church, or town where established. And, in order that there might be the utmost simplicity, the strongest tie, and the greatest strength, all should be bound together by the cord of love and the spirit of mutual help. We intended them to be, first and last, heart and life educators, and in the wisest and best sense golden Rule Societies, both in theory and practice; in other words, that they should be advisedly and emphatically, for young and old the world over, the order of Our Saviour, of the Golden Rule. We decided that the cards, badges, banners, and other things should all, as far as we could make them, be educational to their forms and nature, silent but effective missionaries of the cause to all, wherever placed or carried; indeed, be worthy of the cause, and that no pains, time, or expense should stand in the way. Two incidents photographed themselves on our mind, occurring on two very hot days. One day, we sat regarding the animated, gold, and talked of taking all into the work and for it, until Mr. Angell burst out with enkindling enthusiasm, "Why, the idea is Napoleonic. On another day, when we were nearly ready to begin, Mr. Angell turned and said,—and he meant it,—" Mr. Timmins' if Satan himself were to stand in the way, he should not stop this work. Our reply was, ere we answered it was, " Not if a thousand stood in the way, they should not!" It was a proud day to as both and one of great thankfulness, when, all being ready, we asked Mr. Angell that we might consecrate and begin the American Bands of Mercy with prayer. To see him enter into the spirit of it was an inspiration. His prompt stationing an officer that there might be no interruption, the inviting in of other officers of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and the bringing in of the faith pledging them on the table—never shall never forget the scene. Then in a few words of thankfulness to Almighty God for this goodness in leading us to this work, of keeping us so far our weak health and strength, and that he would grant us his grace, and the spirit of Christ in further work, we went down on our knees and poured out our souls to Him, beseeching Him in the spirit of faith to bless the work and all who should join it to the end of time, to the well-being and happiness of his creatures, human and dumb, until cruelty should be unknown and kindness and love eternally prevail.

Mr. Angell then became the first member of the Parent Band of Mercy by signing the first card, an honor won at the expense of health and strength, which we feared several times would break down in the willing task. Very soon, the roll of membership was graced by as distinguished a list of eminent men and women as any new cause could desire. All praise be to them for their readiness, blessing, and willing support to the opening work! We will venture to say that His Excellency John D. Long, Governor of Massachusetts; His Honor Samuel A. Green, Mayor of Boston; Chief Justice Marcus Morton, of our Supreme Judicial Court, and other judges; Wendell Phillips, President Paul A. Chadbourne, and other prominent educational men; Rev. Dr. Peirce of Zion's Herald, Rev. Dr. Olmsted of the Watchman, Rev. Dr. Emerson of the Christian Leader, Charles A. Richardson of the Congregationalist, Rev. Mr. Barrows of the Christian Register, T. H. Bicknell of the Journal of Education, George Noyes of the Massachusetts Ploughman, J. Boyle O'Reilly of the Boston Pilot, and various other editors; also other prominent clergymen of different denominations, Protestant and Roman Catholic, including the most Reverend Archbishop John J. Williams (these chief officers of the State and the law, and leading members of the press, and the clergy of all denominations), little imagined or dreamed that the infant cause they so readily joined and adopted would, in the course of several months, have such rapid growth, and attain to such large proportions. Up to the present date, February, 1883, the members of the Bands extend from San Francisco in the west to Hungary in the east, with the large number of Bands radiating from the head centre in Boston, and from the smaller centres of Philadelphia and Chicago, number about one hundred and eighty Bands, in and out of public schools, and in the Sunday schools of all branches of the Christian Church, both Roman Catholic and Protestant, with a total membership of nearly twenty thousand. But who can rightly estimate or gauge the unknown, but great and increasing, happy influences, kind words, and blessed deeds proceeding from these, all tending to make more life more pleasant and happy, and human life more sweet and healthy, pure and holy, like the great beneficent Lord and Master of all? In this inspiring thought, we devoutly thank Him, and take courage. Can we close this chapter better than by giving the following highly valued and characteristic note and poem, from the veteran poet of Newport, R. I., Rev. Charles T. Brooks?

THE AMERICAN BANDS OF MERCY.

REV. THOMAS TIMMINS:

*Dear Friend,*—The lines are addressed to you and meant for you, only in the more direct and intimate sense they are addressed to the Angel,—in the upper, comprehensive sense, to you and Mr. Angell, and all the sons of mercy:—

Angel of Mercy! marshal forth
Thy Bands of Mercy o'er all the earth,
Fanned by the snow-white banner of love,
Conquering the world for the kingdom above,
Flinging the beautiful blazon abroad,—
Kindness to all the creatures of God!

So may thy army be marching along
To the music of the angels' song,
Till Mercy's strong and silken band
Knits heart to heart and land to land,
Till war, oppression, and hatred cease,
In the reign of Liberty, Love, and Peace.

CHARLES T. BROOKS,

*Newport, December, 1882.*

## FARMING STATISTICS.

The census statistics respecting agriculture bring to light the fact that the 110,667 persons engaged in farming in 1879, on the Pacific coast produced staples valued at $75,811,422, or $685 to each person engaged in that branch of industry. The next highest section in regard to the amount raised per person engaged is that composed of the States of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware, where 755,835 produced $342,757,272 worth of staples, or $404 to each person. The Mississippi Valley, or Western States stand next, 2,346,544 agriculturists producing crops worth $913,990,652, or $339 to each laborer. Southern to-day, New England comes next with 301,815, farm workers who produced $108,343,466, or $345 each. In the South, 4,070,945, laborers produced crops worth $755,501,308 or 185 to each worker. The average production per person for the whole country is $411. It seems impossible that the South should be so far behind the rest of the country, and particularly behind the Pacific coast, where one farm laborer produces three times the value in crops that a laborer in the South does.—[Journal.

## Wanted.

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feb24-4t


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No other plow has such a record, and no other plow has yet been produced to equal it. It turns the furrows all One Way, leaves no dead furrows or ridges, pulverizes better than any other plow, works equally well on level land or hillside. No farmer should be without it.

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WANTED For the purpose of promoting production of American Seeds of every description, we desire to procure stocks of Seed of all new and improved varieties, especially **Pure Seed Corn** and other grains. New varieties should have their characteristics fixed by a course of five years or more of careful selecting and breeding. Any person having such will please send sample, with his own address plainly marked upon the package, and write careful description of the same to

HIRAM SIBLEY & CO., Seedsmen, Rochester, N. Y., and Chicago, Ill.

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Wanted.

A AMERICAN MAN and WIFE want a chance to take charge of a Dairy Farm or a Milk Farm after the first of April for one year or more; the man thoroughly experienced in stock and farming and making milk; the wife a first rate butter maker, and can furnish the best of references, if wanted. Address

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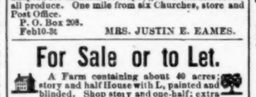
$60 5-TON



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Farm to Let,

Situated in Billerica; will be rented on favorable terms to a satisfactory tenant. Good buildings; house entirely new. For particulars enquire at 128 Milk Street, Boston, or of H. D. JUDKINS, feb24-1t Billerica, Mass.

Farm Wanted!

To hire with privilege of buying at end of one year, not more than 40 or 50 acres. Must be good land, and have good buildings, and plenty of good water. Must be near Churches and Schools, and not more than 30 miles from Boston. Address, giving full description of soil, and how many acres of wood, pasture and tillage. Also size of house, barn, etc., to H. H. W., P. O. Box 1424, Montreal, Canada. feb24 2t

FARM FOR SALE, IN SOUTHBOROUGH, MASS.

The homestead of the late Lewis Brewer, deceased, situated it the easterly part of Southboro' on the road from Fayville to Framingham.

The Farm contains about 60 acres of land, including Tillage, Mowing and Pasture. It has 8 nt 7 Cows and 2 Horses in the year round, and there has been 6 to 8 tons of Hay sold yearly from the place.

There is a variety of merchantable apples and 1,000 bushels of cider apples in bearing year. Milk taken at the door. About one and one-half miles from Post Office. About 30 rods to Depot. One-half mile from good School. A branch of the Sudbury river runs through the farm. Large two story House containing 11 rooms; wood shed connected; all painted and blinded and in thorough repair. Connected cellar. Good water in both House and Barn. Barn 50x36, with Carriage house connected; carriage house 24x36. The place must be sold this Spring, as the widow is left alone and cannot carry it on. For further particulars inquire of DEXTER NEWTON, Fayville, Mass., or of the subscriber on the premises. AUGUSTA E. BREWER, Executrix.

Southboro', Feb. 12th, 1883. feb17-4t

For Sale.

Farm of 84 Acres in Milford Mass.,

On Boston & Albany Railroad, 30 miles from Boston, two-story House 32x40, 12 rooms, containing 9 rooms with two Ells; plenty of closets and pantry room; large shade trees in front; good house for summer boarders. Barn 32x80, with two sheds adjoining. Coach, Carriage House and Woodshed. House and Barn supplied with never failing Aqueduct water. About 50 acres cultivated land and pasture; 4 acres of heavy growth of wood. Fruit—the best in thrifty bearing orchard—Pears, Cherri s, Grapes and small fruits. Soil deep rich loam, well adapted to all kinds of crops; good home market for all produce. One mile from six Churches, store and Post Office.

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AGENTS WANTED

BUTTER WORKER

Best Effective and Cheapest Butter Worker and Power Workers, Butter Printers, Shippers' Boxes, etc.

DOC POWERS, Write for Illustrated Catalogue. 26 S. 16th Street, Phila. Pa.

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A Farm containing about 40 acres; adapted to all kinds of crops; good buildings and blinded. Shop stony and one-half; extra good Barn, 50 by 60, with cellar under the whole. Two good wells, cellars. Also, the building fitted for Milk business. Hen house and yards situated in the westerly part of Woburn, known as Durenville; 2½ miles from Woburn Centre, which is about to be incorporated as a city, and 2½ miles from Lexington Centre.

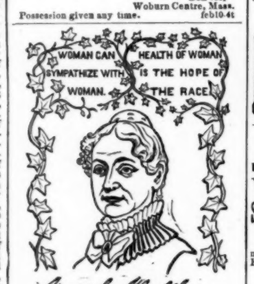
About eight acres of pasture; 5 of wood; the balance well divided in upland and low land; now under a high state of cultivation, upland especially adapted to early or late vegetab es, and the low land to hay or potatoes; an extra handsome crop raised last year. There never failing springs of water. Water in barn, also in barnyard.

Eleven head of cattle and five horses kept on the place for the last four years. Price $4500.00.

A particular inquire of last occupant of 5½ years, now at 21 Cutler Street, East Somerville, and owner at same address, or

G. W. DUREN, Box 751, Woburn Centre, Mass.

Possession given any time. feb10-4t

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LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S BLOOD PURIFIER will eradicate every vestige of Humor from the Blood, at the same time will give tone and strength to the system. It manifestly acts in these two directions.

IT Both the Compound and Blood Purifier are prepared at 233 and 235 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass. Price of either, $1. Six bottles for $5. The Compound is sent by mail in the form of pills, or of lozenges, on receipt of price, $1 per box for either. Mrs. Pinkham freely answers all letters of inquiry. Enclose 3 cent stamp. Send for pamphlet, *Mother's Side Paper.*

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Warranted *absolutely pure Cocoa*, from which the excess of Oil has been removed. It has *three times the strength* of Cocoa mixed with Starch, Arrowroot or Sugar, and is therefore far more economical. It is delicious, nourishing, strengthening, easily digested, and admirably adapted for invalids as well as for persons in health.

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Indulgent parents who allow their children to eat heartily of high-seasoned food, rich pies, cake, etc., will have to use Hop Bitters to prevent indigestion, sleepless nights, sickness, pain, and, perhaps, death. No family is safe without them in the house.

— Mrs. Nancy Ryan who died in Belfast on the 9th inst., aged 82, died in the same house where she was born and married, and where her whole life was spent.

The most brilliant shades possible, on all fabrics are made by the Diamond Dyes. Unequalled for brilliancy and durability. 10 cents.

— Seventy miners were killed by the collapse of a mine in Illinois last Friday.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla, being highly concentrated, requires a smaller dose, and is more effective dose for dose, than any other blood medicine. It is the cheapest because the best. Quality and not quantity should be considered.

— Martin Horan, 35 years of age, fell into a water wheel at the Waterbury Conn., brass mill on Saturday night and was ground to pieces.

Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery" has become so thoroughly established in public favor that were it not for the forgetfulness of people it would not be necessary to call attention to its power to cure consumption, which is certain in all its long stages, and other blood diseases, as eruptions, blotches, pimples, ulcers, and "liver complaint."

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Are you ill? Dr. Russell prescribed Wheat Bitters for me and I never felt better. Try it at once.

— Serious freshets in some portions of New York State. On Saturday five wards in Buffalo were under water.

Agents can grasp a fortune. Outfit worth $10 sent free. For full particulars address E. G. RIDEOUT & Co., 10 Barclay St. N. Y. nov12 52t

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Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Diseases. $1. Druggists. mch11-y

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"Wells' Health Renewer" restores health and vigor, cures Dyspepsia, Impotence, Sexual Debility $1.

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IN SUMS TO SUIT THE INVESTOR,

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Seeds for the Children's Garden

At 25 per cent. Discount.

If you or the Children want Seeds, please send for my Catalogue for 1883, with directions for cultivation, FREE TO ALL. Address

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Probably from the fact that our long experience as Practical Gardeners, made us realize the necessity more strongly than most seedsmen, the very early in the career as seedsmen inaugurated the practice of testing all seeds before selling. From the small test began in 1870, this practice has extended and become so systematized that the most season it required the services of one of our largest greenhouses for our seed tests during the fall and winter, and March to spring in the open ground we had set out many thousand plants, representing the finest Private Stocks and best commercial specimens of Beets, Cabbages, Carrots, Onions, Parsnips, Turnips, Squashes, Tomatoes, Melons, Cucumbers, Peppers, Egg Plants, Lettuce, Peas, Beans, Sweet Corn, Salsify, Cauliflower, Broccoli, Kale, Kohl Rabi, Endive, Cress, Radishes, Spinach, Leeks, Parsley, Herbs, Flower Seeds, Potatoes, Etc., Etc. Our seed farms are carried on under the personal supervision of PETER HENDERSON, Jr., and the author of "Gardening for Profit" has had as long and as varied an experience as one must seek in connection with the soil, it will be seen that we are placed in a position to judge, not only as to the germinating properties, but what is of far more importance, the purity and the kinds of seeds most suited for all gardening purposes. If therefore you can buy seeds as cheaply from us, and we feel sure you will, company entitles to have our large illustrated circulars and price lists.

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of ALL PLANTS, for ALL CROPS, for ALL CLIMATES, for ALL PURPOSES, are described in our Grain and Farm Seed Manual; History and best methods of Planting, etc. only 10cts. Annual Catalogue and Price List of Flower and Vegetable Seeds FREE.

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Pocklington, Duchess, Lady Washington, Vergennes, Champion, Early Ohio, Early Victor, Prices reduced. Also other leading varieties. Illustrated Catalogue free. Address EMERICK'S, Fredonia, N.Y.

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Send for circular describing latest improvements. MASON GIBBS, Homer, Calhoun Co., Mich.

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jan27-eow7t

QUINCY MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

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feb17-13t

NEW SEED CO.

ROBERT & JAMES FAROUHAR, GROWERS, IMPORTERS AND DEALERS.

19 South Market Street, Boston,

Invite a call from Farmers, Gardeners, &c., to examine their large stock of HOME GROWN and IMPORTED SEEDS, all New and Select; none are BETTER, none CHEAPER. We test our Seeds and long experience as practical men enables us to offer THE BEST. Call or write for *Catalogue. It will pay you.*

feb24-13t

NEW Vegetables A Specialty. GREGORY'S SEED CATALOGUE

Mr. Vegetable and Flower Seed Catalogue for 1883 will be sent FREE to all who apply. Customers of last year will need not write for it. All seed sent from my establishment warranted to be both fresh and true to name, so far, that should it prove otherwise, I agree to refill the order gratis. My collection of vegetable seed is one of the most complete to be found in any American catalogue, and a large part of it is of my own growing. As the original introducer of Early Ohio and Burbank Potatoes, Marblehead Early Corn, the Hubbard Squash, Marblehead Cabbage, Phinney's Melon, and a score of other new Vegetables, I invite the patronage of the public. In the gardens and on the farms of those who plant my seed will be found my best advertisement. James J. H. Gregory, Marblehead, Mass.

dec30-14t

Catalogue and Prices of PEDIGREE SEEDS Sent Free to any Address.

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feb3-9t

MAKE HENS LAY

An English Veterinary Surgeon and Chemist, now traveling in this country says that one pound of Sheridan's Condition Powders are worth more than a barrel of most of the Cattle Powders sold here which are worthless trash. He says that Sheridan's Condition Powders are absolutely pure and concentrated. Last year planted as a test I have to offer. I have used your Seed for six years and had rather pay $2.00 per lb. extra than have seed from any other source."—*C. F. Ayers, Farmers Mills, Iowa.* "The Danvers Onions from your seed grew larger than any onions around here and took first premium."—*James McGowan, Chattahoochee, Fla.* "Your seed grew larger than any onions around here and took first premium."—*Whitney, Warren Co., N. J.* "Your seed is the only seed from which we can raise good Onions the first year."—*Silas Totten, Kent Co., Md.* "Your seed is the only seed from which we can raise good Onions the first year to the acre."—*Silas Totten, Kent Cty., Md.* "This is just the kind of onion seed we have been planting for years. Last year planted as a test I have to offer. I have used your seed for six years and had rather pay $2.00 per lb. extra than have seed from any other source."—*C. F. Ayers, Far

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, ··· BOSTON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1883.

## The Poet's Corner.

### A LOVING-CUP SONG.

BY OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

1829 1883.

Come, heap the fagots! Fire we go
Again the cheerful hearth shall glow;
We'll have another blaze, my boys!
When clouds are black and snows are white,
Then Christmas logs lend ruddy light
They stole from summer days, my boys,
They stole from summer days.

And let the Loving Cup go round,
The Cup with blessed memories crowned,
That flows whene'er we meet, my boys;
No draught will hold a drop of sin
If love is only well stirred in
To keep it sound and sweet, my boys,
To keep it sound and sweet.

Give me, to pin upon my breast,
The blossoms twain I love the best,
A rosebud and a pink, my boys;
Their leaves shall nestle next my heart,
Their perfumed breath shall own its part
In every health we drink, my boys,
In every health we drink.

The breathing blossoms stir my blood,
Methinks I see the lilacs bud
And hear the bluebirds sing, my boys;
Why not? You lusty oak has seen
Full ten score years, yet laddies green
Peep out with every spring, my boys,
Peep out with every spring.

Old Time his rusty scythe may whet,
The unmowed grass is glowing yet
Beneath the sheltering snow, my boys;
And if the crazy dotard ask,
Is love worn out? Is life a task?
We'll gaily answer No! my boys,
We'll gaily answer No!

For life's bright taper is the same
Love tipped of old with rosy flame
That heaven's own altar lent, my boys,
To glow in every cup we fill
Till lips are mute and hearts are still,
Till life and love are spent, my boys,
Till life and love are spent.

—[Atlantic Monthly for March.

## Ladies' Department.

## THE LADY OR THE TIGER.

BY LUCY SKEEL.

It was the lady.

Prompted by purely philanthropic motives, I wrote this article in hopes of saving from the asylum those whose reason is threatened through inability to determine whether the lady or the tiger was in the cage to which the princess directed her lover, tried in the arena, while the semi-barbaric king administered the rude system of justice so graphically described in the November Century. For, of course, no one will be so stupid as to suppose Mr. Stockton to have intended that thrilling tale as a satire upon the analytical introspective novelists who, by refusing to finish their "wonderful psychological studies," have introduced the if-you-want-any-more-you-must-sing-it-yourself school of novels, which assumes the reader at least able to tell what the heroes and heroines would have done, if they hadn't done something else.

For the benefit of readers who have not read Mr Stockton's story, and in order to induce them—as a preventive to insanity—to take mine first I give a brief resume of the exciting narrative. In the very olden time there lived a semi barbaric king who, among other peculiarities, had a remarkable method of settling whether an accused person was innocent or guilty. To decide this important point he would have the accused brought into a public amphitheatre and placed in its arena, in which were two cages exactly alike, and their contents were exactly alike. The accused could open either he pleased, being subject to no guidance or influence. One cage contained a fierce tiger, the other a beautiful lady. On some occasions the tiger came out of one door, on some out of the other, therefore, upon the accused's choice depended his fate; he would either be immediately torn and devoured by the tiger and his guilt thus proved, or else was married (a priest always awarded the result of the experiment) to the lady who came out of the other cage. In this case he was considered innocent. Now the originator of this just system had a beautiful daughter, who was beloved by a beautiful young man, her inferior only in birth. But, as her royal father could not approve of this "unequal match," he subjected her lover to this terrible test. But the princess having by gold and the power of a woman's will "learned (what no one before her ever learned) which cage contained the tiger and which the lady," when the dreadful moment came, raised her hand (a sign which only her lover saw) and pointed to the door on the right hand to cause The lover expected her to know, and with a firm and rapid step walked across the arena and did as she bade him. Now the question which Mr. Stockton leaves unanswered is whether she chose to see him gobbled by the tiger or married to other than herself.

You ask how I know that it was the lady, when even Mr. Stockton left both the result and means of the princess's knowledge regarding the contents of the cages, an open question, saying he will not presume to set himself up as the one person able to answer it? You say that although that skilled narrator tells us that when the accused, entering from a door beneath the seats occupied by the royal party, turned to the princess, looked at his beloved, and she, having learned which cage contained the tiger and which the lady, pointed to the cage he should open, and that he obeyed her, yet we are not told how the princess knew nor what she knew?

Now the whole truth of the matter is as follows, and is so self-evident that if you'll only listen to it I'm sure you'll believe me even without the corroborating testimony which the safety of the princess's descendants (one of the royal families of Europe) prevents me from revealing.

She discovered this secret—as many of the rest of us discover amazing secrets—by talking with her maid. Literally and figuratively the "underground railroad" played an important part in the affair. Perhaps it was because the princess had no mother or sisters to confide in, or because royalty when it gets its crown off is as gossipy as less distinguished mortality, or perhaps on account of the undignified manners of those old, old times, or possibly it was being aware that she could always control her maid's by cutting off her head, that made her unreserved. But whatever the reason, one evening while the maid was dressing her for dinner she burst into tears and told all about the lover whom her royal father had condemned to expiate his prosumptuous love by either a cruel death or a loveless marriage.

"Oh, Bridget, what shall I do?" she cried. "If he opens the door of one cage he'll have to marry the lady who comes out of it—and I'd rather die than see him do that. And if he opens that of the other, the tiger'll eat him up! And then nobody known which cage the lady 'll be in, and which the tiger! Oh! boo-hoo, boo hoo!" And her tears fell in such torrents that in one minute the floor was covered an inch deep (for semi-barbaric ladies don't control their feelings as do their highly civilized sisters.) Bridget skipping agilely upon the new flooding chairs and tables reached the closet, and getting her mistress's rubbers, said, soothingly, "Le, miss, don't take on so; let me put these rubbers on you for fear you'd be after getting one of your colds in the head so you couldn't get out to help your young man."

Stimulated by fear of a prospective red nose, the princess, with a mighty effort, controlled her sobs and tears sufficiently to say thoughtfully: "Perhaps it would be a truer kindness to let his body be torn by the tiger than to let his heart be torn by an uncongenial marriage."

But, Biddy, unable to rise to these moral heights, or perhaps wishing to suit this intellectual posing, taking no notice of the remark, said sympathetically and practically: "Mike knows which cage the tiger's going to be put in. Lor! He'd be a fool if he didn't, as he's to put him there! He is my beau. He and I are keeping company; he'll do anything I tell him to. Of course he knows what cage the tiger is going to be put in. Lor! He'd be a fool if he didn't, as he is to put him there! Your royal pa thinks a heap of Mike—who is his chief body servant, just as I'm yours, miss. He has given Mike all the orders about the beautiful lady he is to put in one cage and the fiercest tiger of the menagerie in the other. Don't you hear the terrible creature roaring now?" she added, with the taste for horrors peculiar to her class, and an incoherency which left it an open question as to whether the roars proceeded from lady or tig r.

The princess did hear dreadful sounds coming from the amphitheatre, for it, like all those built by that semi-barbarous nation, was close to the palace. A few steps led up from the narrow hall which separated the princess's regal suite from her father's to the balcony of the amphitheatre, from which on the festive occasions of gladitorial combat the royal party watched the exciting scenes. A few more steps led down from the same narrow halls to those "mysterious vaults and unseen passages" which Mr. Stockton describes as forming a part of the vast amphitheatre. Here a secret passage connected the royal apartments with the back entrance of the cages. The king had it built in order that he might visit each reluctant prospective bride who there awaited her fate. For he liked to worry both the bride and the ferocious beast, who with equal uncertainty awitted his prospective meal.

The poor princess, whose nerves were shattered by sleepless nights of anxiety, shuddered as she heard the distinctly audible growls, but like other anxious sufferers, glad to be doing something, now consented to follow Biddy through this secret route, which the king never kept locked or guarded, because as he had killed the man who devised and built it, he believed himself to be the only one aware of its existence. But Mike came upon it accidentally one day when cleaning the back bars of the cages, and showed it to Biddy, so that she could secretly return to the princess's room nights, when his fascinations had beguiled the girl into forgetting that ten o'clock was the time the king always locked the front door of the palace.

The princess followed her guide past the prison under the royal chambers, to the end of the passage where they met Mike, who (after she passed a quarter in his hand) entered heart and soul into her plot. When he described and told the name of the lady the king had selected as the possible bride of the princess's lover, she knew her to be the beloved of a certain courtier, and (a fellow-feeling makes us wondrous kind) feeling instinctively that that gentleman would not relish seeing his lady-love become the wife of another, she immediately decided to take him also into her confidence. Mike agreed to meet him two hours from that time, and to show him the hidden entrance and subterranean passage through which the princess and Biddy had come, and through which they now returned, reaching the palace just as the dinner-bell rang. Good luck placed the princess next to the courtier at the table, and her woman's instinct was proved by his entering readily into her scheme, the more readily because she convinced him (and tried to convince herself), that although Mrs. Grundy said his inamorata loved the accused, she knew that it was nothing but the desire to make him jealous, which had prompted the girl to talk and walk with his rival; that jealousy alone had caused her to throw those glances of admiration which had originated so much foundless gossip. Adepts in that manner by which those used to society manage to talk to and be heard by only one of a crowd, the courtier and the princess planned their conspiracy so calmly that no one suspected they were discussing anything more interesting than the weather or a comet-party. When another courtier interrupted them by complimenting her on the becomingness of her green dress, she showed her woman's tact by replying that she only put it on because it matched the tea-set which was in the other room, bidding him bring her a cup of tea that they might note the symphony in green. Having thus temporarily disposed of him, she and the courtier was in such confidence rapidly perfected the plan of action which, be going out and meeting Mike at the secret passage, explained to both his and the princess's lover. No time was to be lost as the show was to come off the following morning, but gold, the power of woman's influence and the human spirit, which prompts all young people to cheer on a real live love-match, smoothed the way to the climax of the lover-plot.

The courtier's lady-love, yielding pretty easily to his persuasions, agreed to do just as he said. In fact hours of meditation in the cage had convinced her, that, as the other young man evidently did not care for her, it might be well to close with this one who did; and that a lover in royalty's favor was an eligible parti. Her temperament, also, helped her to this conclusion, for she was one of those gentle creatures who, incredible as it sounds, would rather lose a possible lover than see him take the risk of opening the wrong door and being devoured by the hungry beast of prey.

Consequently, at that moment, when all eyes were so fixed on the arena as not to perceive the signal, the princess being sure that this lady was in the cage on the right pointed to it. This done, the poor princess giving a tremendous scream, fell back, apparently lifeless. While her royal father looked annoyed at this interruption to his fun, the courtier, who was in her confidence, sprang to his feet and asked permission to carry her to her own room. Although the train of ladies and gentlemen had made a pretense of rushing to her assistance, (rising half out of their chairs exactly as do the modern callers who thus excite their hosts and then settle again), still, events turned out just as the courtier expected and hoped, for no one except Biddy and himself considered certain beauty of form during a hysterical girl equal to the uncertain one of destroying a healthy man. Thus he had no rivals when the king nodded an informal consent to his proposition. In fact the king was immensely relieved to get rid of her, fearing she might scream again and her cries make a discordant note in the symphony of the concert then in full screech forth the tiger, or wail of sorrow if forced to marry the wrong bride. Engrossed by eager expectation of this musical treat, he mechanically motioned to Biddy, who, as her chief maid in waiting, stood beside her, and some others of the royal retainers to follow the princess and her bearer in order that the regal ceremonies might attend her return to consciousness. As these manoeuvres were not very glad to be sent away from the great show, they were very glad to return to it, and let no grass grow under their feet, when on reaching the princess' room, the courtier sternly forbidding them to gaze on the royal lady's grief, dismissed all but Biddy. As these hundred scampered back to the amphitheatre so to "in at the death," the princess, like others of her sex, seeing her point was gained, came out of her faint, sprang to her feet, and, followed by the courtier and Biddy, rushed to the underground passage. This subterranean route which she now traversed was exactly the same length as the overground one her lover traversed, but as he walked with a firm and rapid step across the empty space, and she went on a full run, she almost made up for the time lost by being carried up and down the short stairs, for she reached the back of the cage but a moment after he arrived at the front, the whole affair occupying far less time that it has taken you to read of it. Every heart stopped beating, every breath was held, and every eye was immediately upon the man who, without hesitation, went to the door on the right and opened it. Then came a minute and a half of suspense. The spectators, knowing this delay could not be caused by the tiger's timidity, attributed it to the ladies coquetry —for these forced brides occasionally took this way of showing that they held back all they could. But really part of this time of suspense was occupied by the princess's underground journey, the rest by Mike and the courtier helping her into the cage the other lady speedily vacated. Then, inspired by the roars of the tiger next door, (you know ancient blue-blooded families require different inspirations from what their degenerate red-blooded descendants do) she stepped forward and was received into her lover's arms!

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The "gay brass bells" arranged to ring forth their merry peals for one possible wedding rang thrice as gayly for three certain ones. The sensitive spectators (whose style of amusement showed their tender hearts,) now grasping the situation shouted glad hurrahs as the grooms, preceded by the dancing maidens, children choristers and all the joyous accessories Mr. Stockton has so pictorially described, led their brides to their respective homes.

When this gay procession began to move the old king realized how woman had outwitted him by divising a plan which by keeping its letter and breaking its spirit had made futile his favorite method of administering justice. He merely shrugged his shoulders and immediately began to plan a new system; the final outcome of his meditations is our present trial by jury which—Mr. Stockney to the contrary—eliminates the old element of chance. It also (except in rare cases,) so keeps the decision out of the hands of the women and in those of the men so as to fulfill its prejudiced founder's banishing chance and women, the desire of two factors that had overthrown his cherished law. Just as he was leaving the amphitheatre the happy couples passed his seat. The princess lingering a second, cast him a wistful filial glance, whereupon he rose, and, with as much composure as if he were signing a death warrant, or some other such everyday occurrence, stretched out his hands, saying:

"Bless you, my children," as he moved away amidst deafening shouts of applause.—[Selected.

## A DEBT OF HONOR.

BY FRANCIS HESTER.

"For value received, I promise to pay to John Reading the sum of ——" Marian Lang's lip curled and her face flushed—a miserable flush that would have touched any one that loved her; but her youngest sister, Rita, who rolled in an easy chair only said languidly:

"What displeases you, Marian?"

"For value received," began Marian again angrily, as she threw the promissory note upon the old-fashionable writing-table (every instinctively that that gentleman would not relish seeing his lady-love become the wife of another, she immediately decided to take him also into her confidence. Mike agreed to meet him two hours from that time, and to show him the hidden entrance and subterranean passage through which the princess and Biddy had come, and through which they now returned, reaching the palace just as the dinner-bell rang. Good luck placed the princess next to the courtier at the table, and her woman's instinct was proved by his entering readily into her scheme, the more readily because she convinced him (and tried to convince herself), that although Mrs. Grundy said his inamorata loved the accused, she knew that it was nothing but the desire to make him jealous, which had prompted the girl to talk and walk with his rival; that jealousy alone had caused her to throw those glances of admiration which had originated so much foundless gossip. Adepts in that manner by which those used to society manage to talk to and be heard by only one of a crowd, the courtier and the princess planned their conspiracy so calmly that no one suspected they were discussing anything more interesting than the weather or a comet-party. When another courtier interrupted them by complimenting her on the becomingness of her green dress, she showed her woman's tact by replying that she only put it on because it matched the tea-set which was in the other room, bidding him bring her a cup of tea that they might note the symphony in green. Having thus temporarily disposed of him, she and the courtier was in such confidence rapidly perfected the plan of action which, be going out and meeting Mike at the secret passage, explained to both his and the princess's lover. No time was to be lost as the show was to come off the following morning, but gold, the power of woman's influence and the human spirit, which prompts all young people to cheer on a real live love-match, smoothed the way to the climax of the lover-plot.

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"Quite true, my dear Marian; you are a fool to take a trifle so seriously," said the lazy voice of Miss Rita. "If cousin John chooses to lend a little of his surplus money to three charming ladies whose circumstances are somewhat straitened."

"For shame, Rita!" cried Marian indignantly. "How are we to pay it, I should like to know?"

"You do know my very dear Marian; but don't be so very emphatic — you are, in fact, almost violent. That last most unladylike stamp of the foot quite suggested an earthquake."

"Oh, if there could be an earthquake that would swallow us all up together!"

"Now you're childish, Marian. An earthquake? No, I thank you, leave me out of it please—for I have not yet worn my new plush costume. Any way, postpone it till after the next promenade concert.

"If the costume were mine, I would send it with my compliments to cousin John, as you call him, although I could never make out why; his money, of course paid for it."

"Ugly brown plush costume," Marian, you are certainly insane. There is the tea bell! Let us go down my much troubled elder sister; and try to amile upon *futur* for his generosity."

Marian moved away followed leisurely by Rita; and in the pleasantly lighted parlor, a daintily-spread little tea table was awaiting them. Mrs. Lang sat ready at its head, and "cousin John," laying down the evening paper, looked up approvingly at Marian's flushed cheeks as she entered.

"Mademoiselle you are brilliant tonight!" he said with rather an awkward attempt at a courtly bow.

Marian could not force a polite smile but grimly took her seat; and her thoughts were more unamiable.

"John Reading has an air of proprietorship," she thought. "However, he is not quite master of the situation, yet. Mamma's sale is by no means effected. What a red face he has? And such teeth! He probably chewed tobacco before he was rich enough to buy good cigars, as well as wife. Oh, how hard it feel tonight to play it!"

"Cousin John" ate his muffins and admired Marian; Rita discoursed placidly about various topics of the day; Mrs. Lang with an occasional anxious glance at her eldest daughter, endeavored to make herself agreeable to her guest. Her flattery was most delicate and subtle, and her watchful tact made even the commonplace remarks of Rita seem unusually brilliant. Marian, in spite of the tempest of trouble within, could not but admire her mother's cleverness.

"Yes," she thought, "mamma ekes out the man's ideas as she does a scanty old silk dress and makes them nearly bearable."

When, after a most wearisome evening to Marian, of the quartet they were losing so cosy as they sat around the fire, John Reading had gone to the club and the two girls to their rooms, Mrs. Lang sat thinking till the embers faded to a sudden glow; her reflections were far from agreeable.

"If I have overrated my influence with Marian," she thought, "if she should refuse John—she certainly had a restless air tonight—what will become of us? The neighbors say he is a hard man; but that may be from jealousy of his attentions to us. I have striven all these years to give the girls a chance to make a good marriage; and now when the chance seems near to fulfilment, to have that chit dare to duly elected a member of the class of hard citizens and wives! It is too dreadful to even think about. I must go to open the ball and do something bad, and get the teacher to lick us, and then the boys were to jump in and help. Monday morning the school commenced, and the teacher proved to be a sickly looking slim sort of a fellow, a timid, nervous man, with a hand and face like a girl. Every time he looked at one of the boys there seemed to be an expression on his face as though he would say, "I hope you will be good." When he had anything to say to the scholars he said "please," and gave other evidences of being genuinely afraid of us. Wednesday he was a perfect sham. We looked at the boys as we went to our seats but they never looked up. We have witnessed contested seats in the legislature since, but never saw one that was so exciting as that one in the old white school house, at the foot of the hill. The teacher never spoke during the proceedings, and when it was

"Please you did not hurt me much. Papa left me here so long ago, and I am afraid he is gone away?" and the child began to cry.

Marian lifted the little thing and comforted it with soft cooing words. She kissed the thin face, and held the child tenderly until a gentleman came in search of it.

"Harry, where are you?" he called.

"Here, papa, with a kind, strange lady; I was so afraid you had gone away."

"Gone and left my little boy! That is hardly likely. Thank the lady, Harry; and, madame, accept my gratitude also for your goodness. I was detained by some confusion as to my luggage. Can I be of any service to you?"

"No, thank you," replied Marian; and, as the gentleman disappeared in the darkness, and Marian trudged along, followed by the boy who bore her trunk, she rather regretted her refusal of assistance, for the stranger's face had interested her.

Marian's school-friend, Janet Lauriston, had married soon after leaving Mount Edgecombe, where the two girls had grown very fond of each other, and had often written to Marian, asking her to come to her, to admire her husband, her new home, and all delights of a young wife. Unfortunately, at the time of Marian's sudden departure from her mother, Mrs. Lauriston had gone on a few days' visit to her new relatives. So, when the traveler arrived, expecting a hearty welcome, she found only a dull faced servant to receive her. Nevertheless the servant showed her to her room, and left her, a prey to the most melancholy reflections.

Mrs. Lauriston would be home in three days, Bridget had said; but three days seemed a century to Marian, who, at last, to keep from crying outright, set to work to empty her trunk. Lifting the lid, instead of her own familiar belongings, she saw before her a cigar-case, a pile of snowy shirts, an embroidered smoking cap, and in one end the little socks, collars, and suits of a boy.

Marian stared while she mechanically lifted the masculine effects one by one, until a pile of letters suddenly reminded her that she was an intruder, and she hastily put the things back with womanly precision, tenderly smoothing the child's coats, and thinking a photograph of a lady that lay among them one of the prettiest she had ever seen. Then its likeness to the thin little face of the child at the station struck her, and it all flashed into her head at once. This trunk must belong to the gentleman with the nice eyes; and, notwithstanding her depression, she broke into a merry laugh as she thought of his astonishment when he should find petticoats, slippers, ruffles, etc., instead of his own well-known garments. The laugh, however, ended in a despairing thought of her own predicament. What was she to do without all those sensible, useful things she had selected with such care?

'After all,' she thought, 'Dale's Station is not a very large place; and I will send that brilliant-looking maid early to-morrow morning to ransack one part of it for a man and boy, while I myself will search the other.'

After an early breakfast and interview with the servant, to whom she explained her dilemma, Marian set forth with determination; but, as she turned the corner of the street, she saw the gentleman whom she was seeking coming toward her.

'Oh,' she cried, 'you must be the gentleman I want!'

'And you,' he said, smiling down on her and interrupting her, 'you must be the lady I want. I have come to throw myself on your mercy, and hope that you have not been seriously inconvenienced by my mistake.'

'Oh, no!' cried Marian, forgetting, somehow, all her troubles in the presence of this comparative stranger. 'But your son—did he not need some of those dear little things?'

'The poor child is ill to-day, I am sorry to say, and has spoken several times of the kind lady at the station.'

'Oh, how I should like to see him!' said Marian impulsively. Then, conventionality asserting itself, she added, 'But I beg your pardon; perhaps ——'

'Your offer I accept as freely as it was made; besides, I know already that you are alone in your friend's house. The lady with whom I am stopping is an acquaintance of Mrs. Lauriston's; and Bridget has, even at this early hour, made her and your dilemma a subject of gossip with my friend's servant. We had no trouble in drawing conclusions as to your identity. Will you kindly come at once? And in the meantime I will see to the restoration of your property.'

This was but the beginning of a series of little courtesies exchanged between Mr. Hartley and Marian Lang. Under various pretexts he sought her society; and, when Mrs. Lauriston returned, she was surprised to find two persons chatting comfortably together in her drawing-room. She kissed Marian, who introduced her to Mr. Hartley, and told her of her visits to his little son.

"But indeed," broke in Mr. Hartley, laughing, "I have been sadly drawn in the character of a devoted father; Harry is my brother, and not, as Miss Marian has insisted all along, my son.'

'But the photograph of the lady in your trunk? Surely she is your wife?'

'She was a dearly-loved sister who died a year ago and left her delicate little son to my sole care. I have brought him with me here for change of air and scene.'

Marian's face had during this explanation grown terribly red, which she would have given worlds to prevent; and, when Mr. Hartley looked at her with a meaning she could scarcely understand, she turned suddenly pale, and would have fallen but that he held out his arm to support her.

'The poor darling is ever-tired?' cried Mrs. Lauriston sympathetically. 'I will call Charley to help her up to her room, and she shall be made to go to bed at once.'

But, before Charley could be found, Mr. Hartley had kissed Marian, and begged that she would not send him away because he had loved her so short a time.

'I think I must have loved you from the first,' she said simply. 'But I must tell you how bad I am. I have run away from mamma and John Reading.'

'John Reading!' cried Mr. Hartley, 'the scamp who is a notorious land-shark, and trying this very minute to cheat me out of the very prettiest bit of property in the world! What claim can he have upon you Marian?'

'We owe him money,' said Marian, with downcast eyes.

'Very well, my darling; we will promptly pay him, and be married with clear consciences as soon as the law allows.'

The recreant Charles having at last been discovered, Mrs. Lauriston, on coming to for one moment, tired gave it over, and decided to give the new teacher just a week. It had been thawing for a day or two, and the boys were tired of skating, so they thought they could afford to spend a week educating themselves in how to break up a school. On the evening we were duly elected a member of the class of hard citizens and wives! It is too dreadful to even think about. I must go to open the ball and do something bad, and get the teacher to lick us, and then the boys were to jump in and help. Monday morning the school commenced, and the teacher proved to be a sickly looking slim sort of a fellow, a timid, nervous man, with a hand and face like a girl. Every time he looked at one of the boys there seemed to be an expression on his face as though he would say, "I hope you will be good." When he had anything to say to the scholars he said "please," and gave other evidences of being genuinely afraid of us. Wednesday he was a perfect sham. We looked at the boys as we went to our seats but they never looked up. We have witnessed contested seats in the legislature since, but never saw one that was so exciting as that one in the old white school house, at the foot of the hill. The teacher never spoke during the proceedings, and when it was

## BREAKING UP SCHOOL.

It was given out in church Sunday that school would open on Monday morning. After the evening service the boys got together, agreed it over, and decided to give the new teacher just a week. It had been thawing for a day or two, and the boys were tired of skating, so they thought they could afford to spend a week educating themselves in how to break up a school. On the evening we were duly elected a member of the class of hard citizens and wives! It is too dreadful to even think about. I must go to open the ball and do something bad, and get the teacher to lick us, and then the boys were to jump in and help. Monday morning the school commenced, and the teacher proved to be a sickly looking slim sort of a fellow, a timid, nervous man, with a hand and face like a girl. Every time he looked at one of the boys there seemed to be an expression on his face as though he would say, "I hope you will be good." When he had anything to say to the scholars he said "please," and gave other evidences of being genuinely afraid of us. Wednesday he was a perfect sham. We looked at the boys as we went to our seats but they never looked up. We have witnessed contested seats in the legislature since, but never saw one that was so exciting as that one in the old white school house, at the foot of the hill. The teacher never spoke during the proceedings, and when it was over he looked paler and even more sickly than when he had one hand in the hair that once grew where we are now bald, while the other was at work in the vineyard. But none of the boys seemed to care to pitch on to the sick man, and he taught that school two terms and never had to whip another boy. That was the last school we ever broke up. The slim, sickly teacher is an old man now, living quietly in his state, with children as old as we are, and we occasionly see him and ask him if he remembers how we broke up the school. He is feeble now and walks with a cane, but if we had to have a fight with him, even now we would hire a man to do it.—[Burlington Hawkeye.

## CUPID'S ODD KITE.

One day Master Cupid, the saucy young fellow
('Twas the day left to lovers by St. Valentine),
Took the heart of a maiden and gave it two pinions,
Then went out to fly it, the morn being fine,
While he cried with delight: "'Tis the prettiest sight!
There was never before such a very odd kite."

By the wind borne away, it flew up to the tree-tops,
Where some blossoms peeped shyly from twigs as yet bare
Of green leaves, and whispered: "Old Winter still tarries;
And there's something queer floating around in the air.
It is none of our kith nor our kin, that is plain,
And until it has vanished we'll all hide again."

And the birds ceased to sing their sweet songs
They were singing
To those they had chosen their true-loves to be,
And in greatest wonder to shelter they hastened
As soon as they chanced the unknown one to see.
"'Tis no bird," they said, softly, "although it has wings;
And it's best to be wary of strange looking things."

Then lonely and friendless, the poor heart grew heavy,
And down to earth sank again, sighing for rest,
When a youth, who was passing, with tender hands caught it,
And breaking its fetter, placed it in his breast;
Which served that sad scamp Master Cupid quite right,
For no maiden's heart should be used for a kite.

—[Harper's Bazar.

## SWIMMING FOR LIFE.

[David Ker, in Harper's Young People]

"No sign of a sail yet, Jim?"

"Nary one, Jack. I guess our time's come."

Jim Hackett had indeed some cause for saying so, and he said it in a dejected tone, which was rare indeed with him. To be afloat on a boundless sea without knowing where one is, or having any means of finding out, is an awkward matter at best; but, to be afloat in the middle of the Pacific without food or water, in an open boat, under a scorching sun, with not a sail in sight, might well make the bravest man despair. Slowly and wearily the worn out men (sole survivors of the fearful disaster which had destroyed their vessel and all their shipmates) rose to their feet and strained their blood-shot eyes over the bright merciless sea.

"Not a sail anywheres," repeated Hackett despondently. "and we can't catch one o' them fish that's a-frolickin' around the boat by hundreds. God help us!"

"So he will, my boy, never fear. D'ye remember how, when we two were at school together in Cape Cod Bay (mates, of course) we used to be always spinning a yarn about some captain who (when his ship was aground and likely to go to pieces any minute), after he'd given his orders and done all he could, said his prayers and lay down to sleep; and the admiral when he heard of it, said he was the bravest man he'd ever known? Now, Jim, let's just say our prayers and then go to sleep. I reckon we've done all we can, and the rest's in better hands than ours."

No ear but God's heard the short prayer which the doomed men uttered, in their extremest need, from the midst of the desolate sea. A few minutes later both were sound asleep under the scanty shelter which their oars, a sail, and a rug afforded from the destroying heat of the sun. They slept for some time, but, at length the increasing coolness of the evening air after the scorching heat of the day began to have its natural effect upon the two sleepers. They awoke almost at the same moment rubbed their eyes, and then sat up and looked around them. The sun was beginning to sink, but everything was still as it had been at noonday, and a fresh breeze had sprung up ruffling the smooth surface into countless ripples.

"Jim," cried Jack, suddenly, in a tone of great excitement, "your eyes are better'n mine: look out there to the nor'west, and see if you make out anything."

"I guess I do," cried his companion, joyfully. "Hold on a minute till I make sure. Yes, it is, sure enough—it's a sail!"

With clenched teeth and straining eyes the two castaways stood watching for the distant speck on which hung their only chance of life. All at once a kind of spasm shook their rugged faces as it became terribly evident that the fleet-winged bird would not bring her anywhere near their boat. They tried to signal with the remnant of their sail, but it was neither large enough nor high enough to be seen at such a distance. They made frantic efforts to shout, but the feeble cry which their parched throats could utter would not have been heard 50 yards off.

Gradually, when all hope seemed gone, the wind shifted, and the vessel was seen to alter her course. The castaways raised a faint hurrah; but in another moment Jim's keen eye perceived that although this new tact would bring the ship much nearer to them than before, she would still pass at a considerable distance from them, and might very easily miss seeing them altogether.

"There's only one way now, mate," said he, firmly, and I'm a-going to try it, for it's neck or nothing with us now. God bless you, my boy."

A loud splash followed the words, and Jim Hackett, looking up with a start, saw his comrade's round black head already several yards away from the boat. But he saw something else, which startled him even more, and that was a huge black object, which rose suddenly through the smooth, bright water, and darted swiftly and silently in pursuit of his unconscious comrade.

"Look out; Jack!" shouted he, with all the power of his failing voice; "here's a shark!"

Scarcely had he spoken when a second shark appeared, and the daring swimmer found himself beset on both sides at once. His only chance was to make as much stir and splashing in the water as possible, thus keeping the cowardly sea-pirates at bay; but the efforts exhausted even more rapidly his fast failing strength. What a terribly long way off the vessel seemed! and supposing she were to alter her course again, where would he be? instinctively he glanced back toward the boat. The boat was gone! Gone, as if it had never been—hidden behind the long smooth swells that rose high above his head every moment. There was no return for him now, for he knew not even which direction to take, and on he went, struggling for life with limbs that grew weaker with every stroke, while the cruel eyes and gaping jaws on either side drew closer and closer, hungering for their pray.

"Sam," said a keen-eyed sailor to his chum, glancing over the vessel's port quarter, "ain't that mighty like a man somehow?"

"A man!" echoed the passing captain, bringing his telescope to his eye. "Thunder! so it is! put her about, smart, and stand by to lower the boat!"

The help came none too soon, for Jack was so spent that he could only gasp out, "My mate — yonder — boat." But it was quite enough. Half an hour later Jim Hackett was safe on board likewise; and the two rescued men lived to tell their children and grandchildren the story of their adventure in the Pacific.

## SUNFLOWERS FACING THE SUN.

Mr. C. A. White writes to *Nature*; "While the fact that sunflowers turn their faces toward the sun in its course during the day is as old as our knowledge of the plant, I am not aware that any record has been made as to the time of night that they turn to the east again after their obeisance to the setting sun. One evening during a short stay at a village in Colorado, in the summer of 1881, I took a walk along the banks of a large irrigating ditch just as the sun was setting. The wild variety of *Helianthus annuus*, Lin., grew abundantly there, and I observed that the broad faces of all the flowers were, as is usual in the clear sunset, turned to the west. Returning by the same path less than an hour afterward, and immediately after the daylight was gone, I found, to my surprise, that much the greater part of those flowers had already turned their faces full to the east in anticipation, as it were, of the sun's rising. They had in that short time